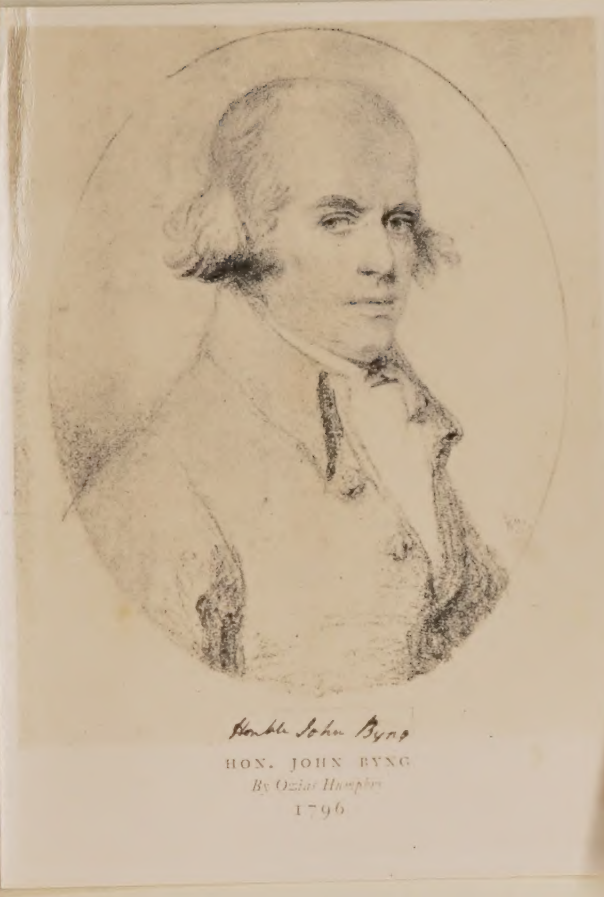
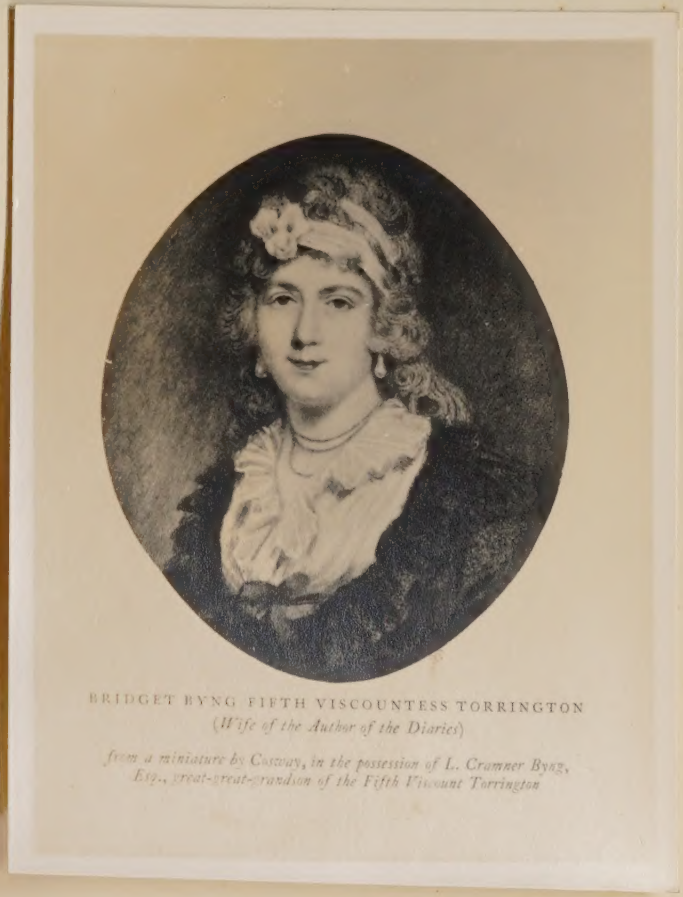
My Character of Samuel Ireland Esq. in answer to the foregoing, in the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine. by Hon Byng

December 1800

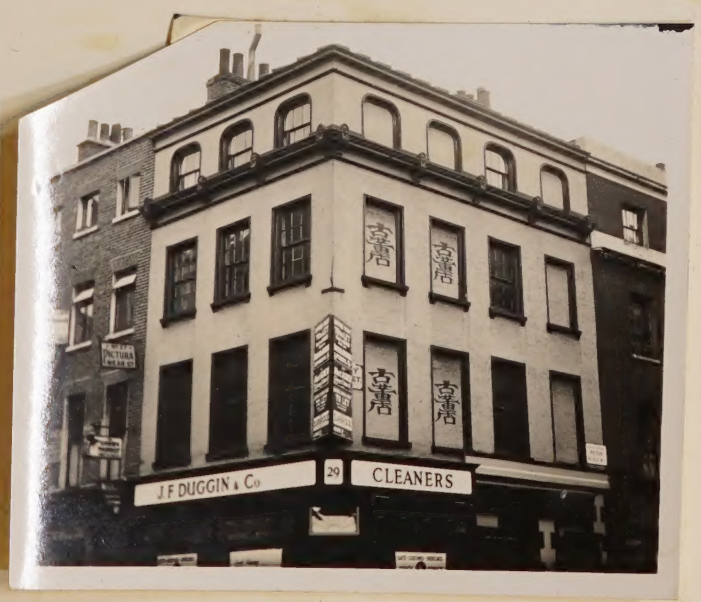
...llows the Cutting from the Obituary of the Gentleman's ... Ireland's character. G.H.L.)





The Hon. John Byng (1743-1813) afterwards Viscount Torrington

Hon. Mrs. Bridget Byng nee Forrest.



Residence of the Byng's 29 Duke Street Manchester Square (The ground floor has since been altered into a shop.

...tleman's ... draft. G.H.L.)

My Character of Samuel Ireland Esq. in answer to the foregoing, in the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine. by Hon Byng

December 1800

(Here follows the Cutting from the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine for Sept. 1800. attacking Sam'l Ireland's character. G.H.L.)

Note by thev Hon. J. Byng.

Wm. Hy. Ireland's Specimens of his Fabrications - Byng, Harrison & Pearson Copy.

Lot 1033 in W: Harrison's Catalogue Sold by Sothebys January 1881.
"Miscellaneous Papers" inlaid to folio:
Fac-similes of the Forgeries
Autograph note of Dr Parr respecting them.
Samr Ireland's Bookplate
Private Plate of A. M. Ireland & Miss Linley
Portrait and Arms of Shakspeare (coloured drawing by Shelley)
Portrails of Elizabeth, James 1st, Princess Charlotte
Garrick between Tragedy & Comedy
Verses by Mrs Ireland in her autograph. (Mrs. Freeman)
Drury Lane Handbill re-Vortigern (very rare)
Copy of S. Ireland's letter as to his son having stolen the MSS.
The extremely rare Anthem on the death of the Princess Charlotte &c. half bound
This volume was presented to the Hon. Mr Byng by W. H. Ireland in 1790. (Bought by J. Pearson for £4-14-0.

This date must be wrong it must have been given after 1796

As Princess Charlotte died in 1817, & the Hon. Mr Byng in Feb. 1813. The Anthem must have been added subsequent to Mr Byng's death.
G.H.L.

The volume must have been presented to the Hon John Byng the son & about 1820

My Character of Samuel Ireland Esq. in answer to the foregoing, in the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine. by Hon Byng

December 1800

(Here follows the Cutting from the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine for Sept. 1800. attacking Sam'l Ireland's character. G.H.L.)

Note by thev Hon. J. Byng.

Chalcographimania by Satericus Sculptor Esq (W.H. Ireland) 1814

p. 139. Lo! hobbling Byng quite antiquated,
Long harbour mind infuriated,
Whene'er he hear of dainty food,
Black-letter tract with cut in wood;

Note. The Honourable individual here mentioned, who was a Peer of the Realm, possessed a few such choice articles as The Paradise of Dainty Devices and Walton's Angler, the best edition with Lombart's plates, for the latter of which he never remembered to pay the dealer from whom he purchased it, so far back as the year 1798.

p. 173 One, rusty armour buys amain,
Or painted window's shatter'd pane

Note - Mr Beckford of Fonthill, the Hon. Mr Byng and the late Lord Orford, together with countless others may stand enrolled as doatingly fond of this article, which is usually purchased to decorate the library.

W. H. I. has dated the Dedication to the above work Aug. 30 1813
Georg Byng, 4th Viscount Torrington died Dec. 1812.
John " 5th " " " Feb. 1813
George 6th " " would be only 45 years old in 1813.
I am reluctant to think that W. H. I. wrote the above in reference to John, 5th Viscount as his father and family and especially W. H. I. had received many kindnesses at John Byng's hands, but I think John is the most probable one of the three.

My Character of Samuel Ireland Esq. in answer to the foregoing in the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine. by Hon Byng

December 1800

(Here follows the Cutting from the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine for Sept. 1800. attacking Sam'l Ireland's character. G.H.L.)

Note by thev Hon. J. Byng.

My Character of Samuel Ireland Esq. in answer to the foregoing, in the Obituary of the Gentlemans Magazine. December, 1800.

Sir, Mr. Urban Dec. 17. p. 901

Having Read, very lately, in your Obituary of The Gentlemans Magazine, a studidly-candid, and seemingly-impartial Account of the Late Samuel Ireland Esq. of Norfolk St. Strand, I have no doubt shall Endeavour, but you will permit me as far as I am Able, to Rescue the Memory of an unforthnate Man from the malicious statements of some malignant critics and a most undandid Mangler: Striving to Lay the his character of the deceased smoothly in the Grave; however Scarr'd by the Pen of hatred, malice, and uncharitableness. - Such subtile, underhand, posthumous, Murders - have too often, been Perpetrated by the secret machinations of envious, malignant Criticism. - Attack'd and Massacred like the Swiss-Guards, (on the 10th. August 1792), Mr. I's fame has been Exposed in the Highway, for the abuse, and detraction of a wicked World.

That he Mr. I's was a Mechanick (a low term Dwelt upon,) was very probable; and if so, it Redounds, - highly to his Credit, to have Come forth a Literary Man: A Man Possess'd of many Sciences; (more than most Men,) and to have used them liberally, and fairly, to an honest advantage.

1. That Mr. I. purchased many Books, was well known; but why is he to be Term'd Speculator more than can be any other Gentleman Book Collector, who, Buys, Sells, and Exchanges ? -

No Man has a right to Heap the term - Disgraceful Forgery upon the deceased - (to whom such Forgery it was deadly) unless the writer could prove his assertion. - and As to the ostentatious display Made of by Mr. I., an eager Man of Hope, and Poverty, it might, surely, have been Pardon'd, when he Gave up his time, without any remuneration, for his civil, hospitable, foliquing display of the Shakspeare MSS. -

An attempt, somewhere, was made attempted (scarcely now Developed) ! But the man who to Accuse the deceased of an Audacious Attempt, and of Complicity Proves your Obituary Writer to can have made but few Enquiries into

(20)

G.H.L.

My Character of Samuel Ireland Esq. in answer to the foregoing, in the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine. by Hm Byng

December 1800.

the circumstances of the Forgery.- Living Beloved by his Family and Esteemed by many Men of Worth, and Learning, Mr. I. gained an honest livelihood by his Engravings, and by his Writings upon various Topics.

Few Men united in one Person (as Mr. I. did) The Draftsman, the Engraver, and the Penman and, yet, these several branches of knowledge have been alleged, with infamy, against his Memory !

Mr. I. Died a Martyr to false Hope; easy Credulity; and Despair: and, but for an imposition almost Forced upon him, might now have Flourished, an healthy, and happy Man.-

Towaspishly, and ignorantly, Calumniate the Memory of the Dead, under the plausible mask of Truth, is such Stabbing in the Dark; Such an offence against the black Act; as would Shudder me to Expatiate upon.-Mr. I. from a warmth of Hope from the advice of his Friends, and from the suffrages of the Learned Mr. I. too easily Believed a Mass of Forgeries Handed to him by his only Son - Flattered to Ruin, Destruction, and Death, he Struggled on (neither a Planner, nor Assistant, in the Fraud,) till Deserted by many who should have Shielded him; Left to Poverty, Obliquy, and Despair, He Fell a Victim to a Shaft Shot from the nearest Hand ! !

The latter Months of Mr. I's Life would Frame a most melancholy Tale !

His forgiveness of the Youth who Drew the fatal Bow; his tender parting with his Family; and his resignation to his hasten'd End; should have Screen'd him from the envenom'd Sting even of an enemy of an inveterate, ignorant, peevish, Commentator: who Delights to Trample upon the Dead; and has not Benefitted by the beautiful Lines of Dr. Johnson -

From zeal, or malice, now no more we Dread
For English vengeance Wars not with the Dead:
A gen'rous foe Regards with pitying Eye,
The Man whom fate has Laid where all must Lie."

Your constant Reader

Yours &c T. W.

The alterations in this show how it was prepared for Byng's drafts

(The final account Byng sent and which was printed in the Gentleman's Magazine for December 1800 differs somewhat from this draft. G.H.L. Jr.)

My Character of Samuel Ireland Esq. in answer to the foregoing,* in the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine. by Hon Byng

December 1800.

Sir,

Having Read, very lately, in the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine, a studiously-candid & seemingly-impartial Account of the late Samuel Ireland Esq., of Norfolk Street, Strand, I shall Endeavour, as far as I am able, to Rescue the memory of an unfortunate man from the malicious statements of a most uncandid Mangler. Striving to lay the character of the deceased smoothly in the Grave; however Scarred by the pen of hatred, malice & uncharitableness. ~ Such subtle, underhand, posthumous, murders, - have too often, been Perpetrated by the secret machinations of envious, malignant Criticism. ~

Attacked & Massacred like the Swiss-Guards; (on the 10th August 1792) Mr I's fame has been Exposed in the highway, for the abuse, & detraction of a wicked world.

That Mr Ireland was a Mechanick (a low term Dwelt upon,) was very probable; & if so, it Redounds, - highly to his Credit, to have Come forth a Literary Man: A Man Possess'd of many Sciences; (more than most men,) & to have used them liberally, & fairly, to an honest advantage.

That Mr Ireland purchased many books, was well known; but why to be Term'd Speculator more than other Gentleman Book Collector, who Buys, Sells, & Exchanges? -

No man has a right to Heap the term - Disgraceful Forgery upon the deceased - (to whom such forgery was deadly) unless the writer could prove his assertion. ~

As to the ostentatious display, Made by Mr I; an eager man of hope, & poverty, it might, surely, have been Pardon'd, when he Gave up his time, without any renumeration, for his civil, hospitable, display of the Shakspeare MSS: ~ An attempt, somewhere, was attempted; (scarcely now Developed)! But to accuse the deceased of an Audacious Attempt, & of Complicity, Proves your Obituary Writer to have made but few Enquiries into the circumstances of the Forgery. - Living Beloved by his family, & Esteemed by many men of worth, & Learning, Mr I. gained an honest livelihood by his Engravings, & by his writings upon various topics.

Few men united in one person, (as Mr I. did) The Draughtsman; the Engraver, & the Penman, &, yet, these several branches of knowledge have been alledged, with infamy, against his memory!

Mr I. Died a Martyr to false hope; easy credulity; & despair, &, but for an imposition almost Forced upon him, might now have Flourished, an healthy, & happy Man. ~

To, waspishly, & ignorantly, Calumniate the Memory of the Dead, under the plausible mask of Truth, is such Stabbing in the Dark; Such an offence against the Black Art; as would Shudder me to Expatiate upon. ~ Mr I. from

* Refers to the cutting from the Obituary of the Gent's. Mag. for Sept. 1800 re. Saml Ireland.

Copied from the original Draft of his answer to the Obituary Notice of Saml Ireland which appeared in the Gent's Mag. Byng's denial answer as printed in the Gent's Mag. differs somewhat from this draft. Editor's Note

To be typed on same legal paper as the History and Sociology, double spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

Feb. 1745. George Byng, Colonel of the 4th Marines

Gents. Mag. Nov. 1797.

26. At Stoke, near Plymouth, Capt. Percy Fraser, of the royal navy, to Miss Byng daughter of the Hon. John B. . → 5th Viscount

Eliz.th Lucy Byng

Gents. Mag. July 1800.

At Binfield, Berks, the Hon. Charles Herbert, second son of the Earl of Carnarvon, to Miss Bridget Augusta Forrest Byng, fourth daughter of the Hon. John B. 5th Viscount

Gents. Mag. July 1800

At St. George's, Hanover-square, Capt. Seymour, of the 10th light dragoons, son of Lord Robert S. to the Hon. Miss Byng, youngest daughter of Viscount Torrington. — 4th Viscount

Gents. Mag. Oct. 1801.

At Bath, the lady of Lord John Russell, second brother of the Duke of Bedford. She was the second daughter of George Byng, Lord Viscount Torrington, and sister to the present Marchioness of Bath and Lady Bradford; both of whom, with his Grace and Lord William Russell, attended her ladyship's remains to the family-vault at Cheyneys, and supported their afflicted brother through the aweful ceremony, followed by many real mourners. 6th Viscount

Gents. Mag May 1808

At St. James's church, Lieut.-col. Byng, of the 3d Foot-guards, to the second dau. of Sir Walter James, niece to Earl Camden.

Aug. 1810. J. Byng 3rd Regiment of Foot Guards. Not son of Hon. John Byng 5th Viscount

Gents. Mag.

Aug. 21st 1810. At Teignmouth the wife of Commodore Byng, 6th Viscount of the Bellrqueix.

21. At Teignmouth, the wife of Commodore Byng, of the Belliqueux.

Gents. Mag. Oct 1811.

6th Viscount 5. George Byng, esq. Capt. R. N. to Frances H. second daughter of Commissioner Sir Robert Barlow.

Gents. Mag. 9 Sept. 1812.

Sept. 9. At her father's, Commissioner Sir Robert Barlow, Chatham, the wife of Capt. Byng, of the Warrior, a son and daughter. 6th Viscount

Gents. Mag. Oct. 1812.

Nov... At Madras, John Byng, esq. judge and magistrate in the zillah of Trichinopoly, third son of the Hon. J. B. an incomparable loss to his disconsolate widow and family. He was esteemed a tender husband, good father, and affectionate friend. 5th Viscount

Aug. 1st 1813 Wellington's Dispatches - Major General Byng's Brigade of Infantry in the Peninsula.

Gents. Mag. January 1814

Major General J. Byng slightly wounded in Wellington's Army

not son of Hon. John Byng 5th Viscount

Gents. Mag. Aug. 1822.

War Office, Aug. 2. 1st Regt. of Foot: Capt. J. F. Gell, to be Capt. *vice* Wilson.—2d Reg. Foot: Major-gen. Sir H. Torrens, K.C.B. to be Colonel, *vice* General Coates, dec.—48th Ditto: Brev. Major J. Taylor to be Major, *vice* Druitt, who retires.—2d West India Regt.: Major-gen. Sir J. Byng, K.C.B. to be Col. *vice* Sir H. Torrens.—Staff: Col. G. G. C. L'Estrange, of the 31st Foot, to be Dep.-Adj.-Gen. at the Mauritius, *vice* Col. Lindsay, who resigns.

Not son of Hon. John Byng 5th Viscount

Letters &c of John Henderson by J. Ireland.

On the 3rd Dec 1785, he (John Henderson, the actor) was interred in Westminster Abbey near Dr Johnson & Mr Garrick, the Chapter & the Choir attending to pay respect to his memory. His pall was supported by the Hon. Mr Byng; 5th Viscount Mr Malone, Mr Whitefoord, Mr Stevens & Mr Hoole.

But I, poor sere survivor, is very
By death divested of a parent's charge,
That parent so beloved, so truly dear,
Whose recollection ever calls a tear;

To be typed on same sized paper as the History and consider line spacing

Oct. 6th 1741. Died Robt Byng Esq. Governor of Barbadoes.

1741. George Byng Esq. promoted Second Major to 3rd Regiment of Guards & Captain of Companies therein

1741. Ship Sunderland 4th rate 60 guns, 400 men, Captain Byng.

not sons of Hon. John Byng 5th Viscount

Gents Mag. June 30' 1760.

MONDAY 30.

At *Cambridge* the following gentlemen were presented to the honourable degree of Masters of Arts. Mr *Byng* of *Trinity College*, Sir *Marmaduke Wyvill*, Bt. of *Trinity Hall*, and Mr *Tighe*, of *St John's* college.

The Hon. John Byng 5th Viscount was created an Peer of the Realm [illegible] 17 January 1761

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

Notes & Queries 14th Nov. 1925.

JOHN BYNG, FIFTH VISCOUNT TORRINGTON.—I should be grateful to any reader or member of the family for information regarding the above, and should be glad to hear of the existence of any portrait and the locality of his burial. Mr. Byng was a Commissioner of Stamps and had a passion during 1785-95 for riding throughout Great Britain on Antiquarian Tours; he had a taste for old stained glass.

PRESCOTT ROW.

The Old House, Waddon, Surrey.

Notes & Queries 28th Nov. 1925.

JOHN BYNG, FIFTH VISCOUNT TORRINGTON (cxlix. 350).—The Hon. John Byng, born 1744, became fifth Viscount Torrington on the death of his elder brother George, which occurred in December, 1812. He only enjoyed the title for a few weeks, as he died in February, 1813.

John's wife signed herself "B. Byng" but I do not know what name the "B" stands for, possibly Bridget or Beatrice, as two of her daughters bore those names respectively. L. Cramner Byng, Esq., of Thaxted, showed me a miniature of her, in his possession, depicting her in middle life and comely. Mr. Byng told me that he was not aware of the existence of any portrait of John Byng, but thought there might be one in the possession of some other member of the family.

John Byng, had at least five sons and four daughters. The eldest, George, born 1768, was a captain in the Navy; he was first married in 1793, and after the death of his wife married a Miss Barlow.

Edmund, the second son, was godfather to Edmund Yates, and in that writer's 'Recollections and Experiences' there are many anecdotes of his godfather.

John, was the third son, and then came Gerard Frederick Fynch, afterwards known as "Poodle Byng."

Henry, the ~~fifth~~ son became a Colonel in the Austrian service, and was killed in the battle of Salzburg in 1801.

The daughters were, first Anna Maria, who was married to the Rev. Charles Hale in 1794; the next, Bridget Augusta Forrest, who was married to the Hon. Chas. Herbert in 1800; then Beatrice, married to the Rev. Colin Campbell in 1820, and finally Lucy Julia, married to John Morris in 1809.

The Hon. John Byng, one of the Stamp Commissioners, was an eager antiquary, especially in matters relating to stained glass and early stage history. Among his rare theatrical pamphlets was the Interlude of the 'Nice Wanton,' 1560, of which only one other copy is known. For some years, with his dogs, he spent his holidays at the Sun Inn, Biggleswade, riding, fishing, out at 7 o'clock in the morning and not returning until dark, and calling himself a "Will Wimble."

He was a Whig in politics, and attended the marriage of the then Prince of Wales at St. James's Palace.

Together with his colleague at the Stamp Office, James Bindley Byng, was a friend of the Irelands of Norfolk Street previous to the production of the Shakespearian fabrications. He was a firm believer in the authenticity of these MSS., though he anticipated that 'Vortigern' would prove a failure when acted, and in fact withdrew from town to Biggleswade in order that he might not be expected to be present at the performance of that play, as he was reluctant to witness the distress of the Irelands which he knew must be occasioned by the play's being damned. He was the only one of all those who had signed the certificate of belief in the Shakespearian MSS. who did not fall away from his friendship with the Irelands after the 'Vortigern' fiasco. When most of those who had put their names to this certificate, in their anger at being hoodwinked, voiced abroad the assertion that Samuel Ireland was privy to, even if not the actual perpetrator of, the imposture—John Byng strenuously denied it (though he himself had given up his faith in the MSS.).

Previous to the publication of the 'Authentic Account' William Henry Ireland had confessed to both Mr. and Mrs. Byng that he alone was the fabricator, and laid his proofs before them. To this unhappy youth they behaved with the greatest kindness, and he was still admitted as a friend to their house. They used every endeavour to reconcile Samuel Ireland to his son, and when this failed, they made interest with their friends, the Winders, to give William Henry employment on one of their farms.

Four years after this both John Byng and his wife showed great sympathy with Jane Ireland on the occasion of her father's Samuel Ireland's illness and death.

It was the Hon. John Byng who refuted the aspersions contained in the anonymous obituary notice on Samuel Ireland, which appeared in the *Gentleman's Magazine* which refutation was published in that journal in the *Supplement* for 1800.

G. HILDER LIBBIS.

Sweetdown, Rayleigh.

But I, soon [illegible]
By death divested of a parent's charge,
That parent so beloved, so truly dear,
Whose recollection ever calls a tear;

1

To be typed on same sized paper as the History and consider line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

The Torrington Diaries containing the Tours through England & Wales of the Hon. John Byng (later 5th Viscount Torrington) between the years 1781 & 1794. edited with an introduction by C. Bruyn Andrews & with a general introduction by John Beresford. (Eyre & Spottiswoode Ltd 1934

Was only Ld Torrington for the last fortnight of his life
He was a Soldier, a Lieut-Col in the Foot Guards -
& became a Commissioner of Stamps in 1782
His wife the beautiful Bridget Byng was adored
by the Statesman Wendham

When he liked Byng could write extremely well. He was
soaked in Shakespeare, was thoroughly familiar with
Paradise Lost & enjoyed reading Cervantes & Le Sage,
Swift, Fielding, Richardson & Sterne, Pope, Thomson, Gray,
Shenstone, Johnson, Goldsmith & Gray, Wyatt & Waller

Byng was born 18th Feb 1743 educated at Westminster under
Markham. His youth was apparently an unhappy one
as he writes.

But I, soon sent abroad, to range at large,
By death divested of a parent's charge,
That parent so beloved, so truly dear,
Whose recollection now calls a tear;

To be typed on same sized paper as the History and consider line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

This cruel uncle was Admiral Byng who was shot at Portsmouth

An uncle lived, like Hamlet's uncle he,
'Meet that I set it down; such thro' me!
To my faults open, to my merits blind,
'A little more than kin and less than kind.'

He passed from being a page to Geo. II into the army ~~his first Commission being in 1760~~.
He was a Cornet in the Royal Horse Guards 11th January 1760 a Captain in the 58th Foot on the 29th March 1762, a Lieutenant (subsequently Captain) in the 1st Foot Guards on the 11th August 1762, and a Captain (subsequently Lieut-Col) in the same Regiment on the 17th Feby 1776 finally retiring on the 18th May 1780.
He served in Germany in the Seven Years War.
He probably took part when the Royal Horse Guards (Blues) and Grenadiers routed the French Cavalry at Warburg 31st July 1760
On March 5th 1767 he married Bridget Forrest the daughter of Commodore Forrest
Wraxhall in his diary under date July 1774 gives an interesting account of a sailing tour in the eastern middland counties with Rhodomandeley & John Byng.
He probably was employed at Somerset House in 1780 though there is no record of his being there till 1782.

"His early days were spent in Camps,
His latter days were pass'd at Stamps"

is his own summary of his life

To be typed on same sized paper as the History and consider left opening

Horace Walpole writes to Lady Ossory on 1st Aug 1780
"Though our story has made so much noise, it is
"not touching & melancholy like the Orient one you
"Ladyship tells me of poor Mrs Byng, I remember
"at the time that Lord Torrington was the sole cause
"of his brother's ruin".

And again on the 12th Sept 1780 Walpole writes
"You Ladyship has been very charitable to Mrs Byng;
"but what must Lord Torrington feel, if he has any feeling,
"to know his brother eats the bread he has given a
"Minister whom the elder has always opposed. This
"I think would wound one to the quick".

There is no mention of this quarrel with his elder brother in the Diaries. There are a few uncomplimentary remarks about the management of his brother's estate near Bedford but that is all. There are however several places in all the volumes where passages have been cut out, and it is possible they only related to family affairs – as the missing portion does not affect the course of the general narrative.

It is more in keeping with Byng's character that he kept silent in this matter as he did in regard to his wife's friendship with Windham.

To be typed on same legal paper as the History and similar line spacing

~~Note page XXI~~

To those interested in the social life of this time Mrs Byng will be familiar as the friend of Wm. Windham who made no secret of it.

Early in 1775 Windham writes that "Mrs Byng was sitting at the door of Sckleford not in expectation of Mr. Byng's return" and Windham boasts later on that "at the sight of him she flushed so strongly that he perceived it at the distance of the rails."

Through all Windham's many love affairs this friendship with Mrs Byng seems to have continued. At one time it was Mary Hickey; in 1788 it was young Penelope Loveday; at another date the unknown giver of the beautiful little salmon velvet beaded case in the B.M. And after so much philandering it comes as almost a shock that he should do anything so definite as to marry Mrs. Byng's sister Cecilia.

Windham writing 26 July 1790. "The place of most attraction was Duke St. from the hope of seeing Cecy. I there found Byng & Col. Bertie, who had come that day from a tour in Sussex"

~~Mr~~ Hon J. Byng & Mrs Byng attended the marriage of Windham & Cecilia on July 10th 1798 at Benfield in Berks.

Of Byng's attitude to all this we can only guess. In little ways probably Windham annoyed him; but as a rule we may take it that he bore the philandering of his

(4

[illegible] very. [illegible] never follows

To be typed on same lined paper as the History and number line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

[illegible] without taking short notes, So I must retraval

wife's friend with a patient shrug - possibly Windham helped him to console Mrs Byng in her perpetual ill-health. But whatever Byng's feelings were he was careful not to show them & he certainly bore with philosophic patience a situation which was very common in these days among the class to which he belonged

Byng died on 1st January 1813 in Tenterden Street St. George's Hanover Square aged 70 his will was proved in 1818. Mrs Byng died on the 25th April 1823 in the same street.

Mrs Byng's mother Juliana Fredericia Maria wife of Commodore Arthur Forrest was the daughter of Col Lynch of Jamaica & one of the most vivid men & characters of the 18th Century. Few people had not heard or perhaps knew the eccentric & extravagant Mrs Forrest. When she was left a widow she had beside Bridget Byng two other handsome daughters, Augusta & Cecilia, two other daughters & two sons.

Hickey writes of them in 1770. "Mrs Forrest the most "extraordinary woman in respect of eccentricities that perhaps "ever lived resided with all her children except Mrs Byng "in a magnificent house in James St Westminster, on great "facing Bird Cage Walk in St James's Park & lived at the rate "of £6,000 a year. She had likewise a fine country seat "at Burfield in Berks - the Music Room being decorated

5

[illegible] the

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6

To be typed on same lined paper as the History and similar text spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must retravel

in having view'd many Places highly-

11. learnin d the difference between the

with pictures of her Father's naval battles.
Ultimately she sought refuge in her house at Benfield to avoid arrest for debt. Still even here she turned night into day & no doubt still shocked her parties of young men & women by her lewd & blatently suggestive Jokes.

Of Budget herself we get many glimpses in the Diary especially in the quarrel with Ozias Humphrey over her husband's portrait in 1796.

She writes to Humphrey (A) "am so great an admirer of your performances that I would not have any person find a fault. The eyes & forehead are charming, the face is too short & round, & too much double chin, also the beard too dark, the whole giving the appearance of a brown man, his nose turns up too short & his mouth is rather too small. The whole of the face too red as he is in general pale, with a distinct pale red in his cheeks. His face has generally a pleased or lively look, in the picture it is as if he is angry. I wish him to be drawn just as he is, neither better nor worse & I shall feel quite grateful to you if you give me a strong likeness which I have no doubt of with these alterations."

Soon after this Humphrey seems to have sent home the portrait & his bill. An angry letter follows (B)

To be typed on same sized paper as the History and similar line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must retraval [illegible] in having view'd many Places highly-

The beginning of the difference between the Byngs & Ozias Humphrey was in 1796

The Hon. Byng sent an invitation to Humphrey to come & "Eat mutton" with him on Wednesday as he wishes to become better acquainted with him

Apparently Byng decided to have his portrait painted

Then Bridget Byng writes to Humphrey Sunday morning

That as she was not well enough to go with her husband she took the liberty at Humphrey's own desire to tell him what should be altered in the picture It comes here to B

B I am just come home & see the picture you drew of Mr Byng, & a small drawing, that I have not the smallest idea for what intended. Obliged as I have ever expressed myself by the beautiful & capital picture you presented me of my one - & at that time having rather offended you by saying when you wished to draw some of my family - that I could not afford it - I must sincerely wish you mean the sending these & the charges as a good joke, for certain I am Mr Byng never felt himself in a situation to spend such a sum upon his own picture or any belonging to him, & that it was at your

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particular request he sat for it, thinking of Mr. Humphreys as a gentleman & a liberal-minded man, I can frankly say that Mr. Byng feels the want of money with his family too much at present — not to be very much hurt was he to see your letter, so I have opened him that vexation & returned both as I can never think you can be serious. I shall always feel & have ever acknowledged your kind present to me of my Frederick's picture.

And am dear Sir
Your obedient humble Servt
B. Byng.

This was evidently received on the night of the 11th March 1796 by Humphrey, & in reply to it, he sat down the next morning, & wrote the following letter

"It is not easy to describe the concern & astonishment I felt at the perusal of ~~your~~ the letter I had the honour to receive from you last night. I desired Master Byng to sit for his portrait as he was a pretty subject in a hope of making from him a picture as a present that was likely

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In the typed on same legal paper as the Husby and double line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must retraval
[illegible] in having view'd many Places highly-

to be acceptable to you. It succeeded to my wishes & I sent it to you with pleasure, & have reason to believe it has given general satisfaction. :- But the drawing of Mr Byng & his portrait in crayons were both bespoke by him & must be paid for at least the present Shell.

If your circumstances are strait from the burgeons of your Family I am very sorry for it, but I cannot be supposed to know or to enquire into the condition of all that employ me to paint their portraits. I have always felt a great esteem for you & your Family as far as I have been of them & have endeavoured by my conduct to merit as much from them in return, but you know, Madam, I am a professional man & have only that by which I maintain myself & fulfil by it the reciprocal duties of Society to others. I have never received by you, Mr Byng, or any of either of your families a single Shilling in my life. The time I have devoted to them in meat, drink, house rent, servants &c. &c. cannot be valued at less than five & twenty guineas, for which I do not know that you have any claim upon me than of a general nature.

9

[illegible] = pressure my [illegible]

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must retraval

[illegible] having view'd many Places highly-

If Mr Byng cannot afford to buy pictures, he should certainly withhold his commissions from painters, & leave them to execute their own designs, which sooner or later must be of some advantage to them. My pictures are charged exceedingly low as is universally ~~acknowledged~~ allowed. The cheapest portrait of Mr Byng at the least I expect & dare assure you will immediately send for & discharge, it will be impossible for me to pay the demands that are daily making upon me, if the friends who employ me do not enable me to do so, by satisfying my claims upon them.

I am not much accustomed to writing, nor have I leisure myself to write anything more upon this subject. It will grieve me exceedingly to offer any rude measures to Mr Byng, but I cannot be so considerate for him & his circumstances as to be wholly inattentive to my own

I have the honour to be, Madam, Your most humble servant P. Humphry

Old Bond Street March 12 1796

N.B -- In whatever I may be compelled to do, I shall act upon a general principle of Justice, which concerns every member of my profession; if the nature of your letter to me is such as will compel me immediately to prosecute my claim (10)

To be typed on same legal paper as the History and similar line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must retravel [illegible] would name Places highly-

This is answered by Mr Byng at once, at four O'clock of the same day.

You are certainly right, Sir, in saying if Mr Byng orders a picture his circumstances are no excuse for nonpayment. I did not mention them as any, but to prove from what I had myself said on my first seeing you, & your proposing drawing some of my family, that we never thought of such luxuries, therefore could only consider your letter as meant in joke & wished not to vex Mr B. by telling him. When he came home yesterday I asked about the picture (without showing your letter) & if he had sat at his own desire. He wondered at the question as an absurd one, as I must know he never could have thought of such a thing. It was, he said, at Mr Humphrey's particular request, & very troublesome to him sitting. I fancy no one will doubt Mr Byng's veracity or liberality, as to receiving a shilling from me or any of my family, I really never thought of accusing you. Those who have seen & admired your picture of my son will do me the justice to say I have acknowledged the present with civility - quite commensurate by me.

(11)

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must retravel [illegible] many Places highly-

It is now absolutely necessary Mr Byng should see both your notices. To-morrow morning I shall surprise him with them as we have both thought so differently of you. No one indeed can be safe in this way. I can for your sake wish it had ended with your first letter as I can't think twelve guineas should Mr Byng be obliged to pay the money, will answer to your fame on the whole. I confess I feel a great deal at this moment from your letter, therefore think it best to subscribe myself

Your obedient servant B. Byng.

H. S' Clerk.

Then follows a letter from Humphrey which he says he drew up with "the assistance of Mr Stables, in which he took in the recent affair, says that the picture by his memorandum was evidently done by Mr Byng's own order, that he set for it in St James's Street, "as the servant who now lives with me well remembers," & he requests the payment of it in full.

Mr Byng himself replies almost immediately, to say - With wonder I have received your demands upon me, as to the picture you talk of, I

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

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As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must retravel [illegible] would name Places highly-

shall be ready to pay, & will accordingly pass my account to you on Thursday next." Of the drawing [about which the dispute appears to have arisen] he says "I am completely ignorant, and from your last letter, I understand you do not expect payment for that".

Still the matter was by no means settled, & Mr Byng wrote a day or two afterwards, March 21. saying, that being in the company of "a Mr Lyson" [a barrister], who was "one of his friends," he mentioned the whole transaction of the picture & drawing, & Mr Lyson would like to call upon Humphrey, or else would be glad to see him at his chambers No 3, Gray's Inn, or his house, No 24 Southampton Row, in order to consult respecting the difficulty that had ensued.

Humphrey replied on the same day to say that he knows Mr Lyson a little, & very much approves of him; but he was determined not to put the matter into the hands of anyone else, & he says "As the whole tendency of your letter to me carries more than a hint injurious to my credit & honour as a professional man, I repeat & insist

To be typed on same lined paper as the Hesley and similar line spacing

No 8.

upon your paying my demand by Thursday next, as has been required of you."

The case he concludes is a simple one. "If I have no just claim, Nonsuitance on your part will be justifiable & safe, if I have, you must pay the money, the option is open to you."

How the matter was settled is unknown - but it seems likely that the money for the picture was paid & that the original drawing, perhaps the one now in the Royal Academy collection, was retained.

A portrait of Master Byng, the Page of Honour, was certainly exhibited at the Academy in 1794. It was engraved, but whether the one of Mr Byng was ever supplied, or was ever paid for is unknown.

Mrs Byng's first letter requesting the alteration to Byng's portrait makes it seem to be a commission

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

An Excursion taken In the year 1751
Tour to the West.

Peregrine Bertie (d 1782) of Woburn near Beaconsfield elder brother of Albemarle Bertie who the latter was afterwards E. of Lindsay

at the Talbot Inn, Elstob on Severn, possibly in the same house that Tom Jones & his Sophia stop'd at; I am as poor as he, & Mrs B (yng) no doubt as fond as she was / see Tom Jones X. VII.

Felbrigg Hall (Norfolk) was the house of Wm. Windham

Byng in Sept 1782 writes "I walked home to my Chateau in Norton St"
Norton Street near Portland Road

Byng's Journal of Tours

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

[illegible] Town without taking short notes, So I must retravel

Copy of Hon. John Byng's Journal

f. 12. underneath a view of A. Hatheway's Cottage from Ireland's River Avon.

W. H. I.'s auto.

'Can mine remember? 1795
When Shakspeare like a dazzling meteor stood,
Perch'd on my Inkstand, near the Thames fair flood,
When folly's self my documents all Bore,
Whilst well-bred guests stood frightened on the floor,
When the raised heretics o'er my Papers strode,
And I myself appeared the forging God.
Vulcan

Note by the Hon J. Byng

Relative to Bitford; and of the Press; Sippies; Shakespeare's Crab Tree &c &c; now in tradition at Stratford-upon-Avon. I was shown by W. H. I., a Letter of W. S. wherein he stated the jeering, Surlyness, rudeness of Ben Jonson behind the Scenes of the Globe Playhouse: - and wrotes "I do nott Deny but thatt yet was the wyst mistyke att Bittforde."

Byng to H. I. Dec. 29. 1794 - dittto 14 Jany 1795
Malone to Byng 4 Dec. 1795 Byng to S. I. 14 Feb/95

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must retraval

James Boswell to Byng 20 Feb 1795
My Dear Byng, I am perfectly satisfied of the authenticity, & have signed my verdict in a Book at Mr Ireland's. Pray take Colman to see them, & then be kind enough to appoint a day for that same dinner, not on a Sunday tuesday or friday. Yours ffly.

J. Manby to Byng (Feb 1795)
The Horses named for the Oatlands are divided into two classes. The first containing 20 horses is to run on the Wednesday. The second containing 19 is to run on the Thursday. I had thoughts of being there, but have been forced to give up my plan. Mrs Manby has got another cold, not a bad one, but enough to make her keep at home today, perhaps tomorrow.
As far as I can judge the Shakespearian Papers are authentic not withstanding the mystery that hangs over the production of them Yours &c

Wm Powell to S. J. Re. a Stranger to attend at rehearsal

J. Nixon to Byng - Mrs Byng & myself agree this prescribed Stranger is no other than Mr Byng. Mr Ireland saw Mrs Siddons on Sunday, she seem'd to him perfectly well, & said that though she was afraid she should not be able to play on Saturday, she hoped she should in 3 or 4 days afterwards -

(2)

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he informed Kemble of this, who refused to put it off a single day; notwithstanding it has been postponed 3 month beyond the time stipulated in the agreement - I saw 2 Fac similes of Lord Southampton's Letters from ~~Mr~~ Malone's Book, & think they are as much unlike each other as they are Mr. Ireland's Forgery. J. Nesin

A note by Byng by the side of a handbill headed Vortigern
A malevolent & impotent attack on the Shakespeare MSS. having appeared &c. &c.
This Hand Bill (I was Told) was most timely and judeciously Dissemenated; & would have been of Service; if any thing could have Counteracted the wildness of the Writing; the unconnection of the Scenes; - & the determined ill-acting of Mr. Kemble !!!

Lord Harcourt to Hon. John Byng April 1795
I did in the course of a Conversation I had the honour of holding with H.M. mention what you had told me respecting Shakespeare, but whether it is the King's intention to make any enquiries upon that subject, it is impossible for me to say; I indeed, considering how much his attention is necessarily engaged at this time on important affairs I am apt to think that He will scarcely find Leisure to attend to the Discovery you did me the honour of naming to me
I have the honour to be Sir Your faithful humble & obedt Servant

(3

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

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Aug 7. 1795 Byng to S. J.
Dec. 1st 1795 ditto
Dec. 8 " ditto
" 15 " ditto
S. J. to Byng Janry 12. 1796
I have asked more than once if you had not called on the Course of ye Morng & am sorry to find that illness has prevented — as to ye business of ye Morng it passed nearly as I expected — I ~~receive~~ read ye play with a Sore throat &c &c & the parties whose characters I had cast seemed all to be well satisfied — Mrs S—s was & had been ill, & could not sing — therefore some one else must sing = Butlers, Saxons, Lords, & attendants all accommodated themselves to the occasion well & in good order — I took with me two friends — who were well & civilly received — I will if possible call on you tomorrow — but I hope & trust you will be well enough to be at ye Off. My best Compts to Mrs B. & believe me yours
Monday Evening S. Jones
Mr Bentley plays Constantius
— King — the Fool

Byng to S. J. Janry 21st 1796
" " " March 29th "
" " " April 1st "

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

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S. J. to Byng 4 april 1796.

D. Sir, You have no doubt heard, the lamentable fate of Vortigern - It went smoothly on till ye fourth act, & then by ye death of Hengist - play'd by Phillimore, the laugh began, for that was the mode of attack - it was evidently a planned business, & after that every Speech good or bad, was incessantly an object of laughter by ye foes - That excellent speech of Vortigern of ye rattling fingers &c was roared at in derision - after this I can only say that myself & friends seem all to have lost their wits - or such an account of the play in all ye papers could never have been given they are all full of reflections, even to personalities towards me. We are all at this instant in ye utmost distress - I feel more for the females than myself - There is a print of Saturday - burlesquing me & my family in searching ye Chest &c &c. - There was ye greatest house on Saturday Evg. ever known - & more friends than foes - The play was not given out Barrymore went on for that purpose - but said nothing - but standing sometime on ye stage amidst ye plaudits & laughs - Kemble, tho' I stood near him behind ye Curtain - went on and without consulting me gave out ye play for Wmd - The School for Scandal - So that ye Vortigern not being given out did not draw forth a decided opinion as to ye number on either side - but my friend many of them have believed - were two to one

(5)

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

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in my favour. K. never played so ill, & evidently with an intent to damn the play - I have many, many things to tell you when we meet, that I cannot say now - I sent to Mrs. B. - 4 orders for Gal.ry on Sat.y at 3 - I did not see Mrs B. at ye play but believe she was there. There were many more friends than I imagin'd could have been got together on the occasion - I put forth a hand bill similar to my advertisement a few days ago, wch was delivd. at ye house to ye people on going in - Time will not permit my saying any thing further - Believe me Dr. Sir your very sincerely but wretched (for ye moment) S. Ireland.

Monday noon Norfolk St. addressed Hon Wm. Byng
Sun Inn Biggleswade Bedfordshire

Byng to S. I. 5 April 1796

Wm. Baillie to Hon John Byng
Little Chelsea april 13 1796

Dear Sir, I have an engagement tomorrow morning but shall endeavour to shorten the Business that I may have the Pleasure of meeting you in Norfolk Street according to your Desire - As to my Counsel or advice to Mr Ireland (even if I was well qualified) I should rather hesitate for you know well how largely I sacrificed both in Income & other Matters for the sake of retirement & withdrawing myself

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in a manner from the busy world, & after such a step at my years of 73 it wd be rather inconsistent to rush as a Volunteer into a Contest which by ye sample or Commencement seems likely to be as fiercely ~~contested~~ controverted as if it were political, & of course everything relative to the Business will be pried into, scrutinized, misconstrued & dragg'd before the Public either in Gazetteer or Pamphlets; & as I have the utmost abhorrence of being introduced in any way, I must beg to be excused from such an Interference. I have read none of the Publications against Mr Ireland or the Shakspeare Papers but I have heard much of ye substances & ye argument used in them & cannot think he has had fair or candid treatment & should be glad to be able to serve him so that it did not disturb my Plan of Quiet & Retirement

I am most sincerely your obedt humble servt.

William Baillie

Wm Baillie to Byng 21st April 1796

Dr Sir, I was mortified at being from home at the time you kindly called on me, I had many additional Pictures to show you & amongst them an original or two most strongly representing beautiful Nature – this at another Call I hope. I shall cheerfully obey your second Summons & think it a credit to every one of ye meeting to endeavour to rescue a poor oppressed Man from ye malevolent

(7)

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retrave

attack so groundlessly made on him - for my part I wd as soon believe that the Ireland Collection were all Copies, or that the Bank Notes issued last Week ~~wd~~ are all forgeries as to be sway'd by their Arguments unproved - I honour very much Mr (Warren) Hastings as he has been an Instance beyond all to be found in History of ye fury & perseverance of purity evidence supported by superior abilities his Factors are vexed & he resists the assault boldly - I think Ireland will finally triumph however a sprinkling of ye Nobility, Clergy & Literati wd shorten ye Business - Bindley's dissection was a Loss being acknowledged a Man of taste & a Scholar - Can'd you prevail on Mr Ireland to have the two John Henry's papers compared I mean the one procured so aptly & shortly & that in Custody of Mr Wallace - what an irrefragable Argumt this is - And if Ireland attack'd Malone at Law for maliciously endeavouring to depreciate his Property, (for these Shakspeare papers are surely property) what a Speech Erskine would make with such Materials - I wish success to ye Committee & a short Date to fraud & malice - with much Esteem

I am most sincerely yours Will Baillie

address franked this way

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retraval

Byng to S. I. 25 April 1790
" " " 26 " " being reply to letter below

S. I. to Byng 26 April 1790.

Dr Sir, We have had a respectable meet. this day - at wh
I really am concerned you wd not attend - The
decision is that Mr Franklyn, Mr Morse & Mr Caley apply
immediately to the Duke of Leeds, the Earl of Warwick,
E. of Radnor & E. of Leicester to ask them if they will
take on themselves the secret of seeing ye Kent^n & being
being informed by him of every circumstance that concerns
the MSS. when the answer is obtained - I am to know
& ye Committee again to be resumed.
Mother Jordan's benefit I attended last night, she
play'd it as she does every thing else with great ease -
but not with energy that in parts is requisite - a few
years younger wd have added to ye performance & perhaps
have given that energy that I complain for ye want of -
I hope you will very soon revisit the Glimpses of our
Moon - and add to the light so much wanted in our
perfect state of Darkness. I am wth true respect Yrs very truly
S. Ireland

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THE HON.JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour,without taking short notes. So I must retravel

S. I. to Byng 29th april 1796

Dear Sir. I thank you for yr attention & am sorry to say we are not a jot nearer the point than when we parted - I saw Mr Franklin yesterday - he had seen D. Leeds who appeared afraid to undertake ye business - E. of Leicester he had likewise seen - who wd not give an answer till he had given it a full Consideration - The D. of Norfolk & Ld Warwick will be in Town next week - no one else has been applied to - For my part I think ye first idea was the best. to chuse two persons from ye Committee of wch I sincerely wish you to be one & hope it will so end - You may suppose it is a wretched state of suspense that I am now in - being so near a disclosure & not to be able to accomplish it. I do not presume any thing will now be done till you come to Town wch you say will be Tuesday next - Should any thing occur I will write to you at Hertford, but do not expect any thing material will - I shd have been glad to have been with you - as the Town has no great charm for me in the present moment. Believe me

Yrs very truly S. Ireland

(10)

To be typed on same legal paper as the History and double line spacing

THE HON.JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour,without taking short notes. So I must retraval

S. J. to Byng 5 May 1796

Dr Sir; I have heard nothing Decisive or I shd have sent to you - All I learn is that ye Gentn is displeased that all ye persons in ye list sent to him by ye Committee were not applied to - befor any other Names were mentioned - and that he says he all along expressd his objections to any Gentn that was the Comee :- wt will be ye result I know not - shall be happy to see you tomorrow - The Play is Gone to Harris

Yrs very Truly S. J.

Wm. Thos. Lewis (actr) to Byng May 6th 1796

Dear Sir, I have just received an Answer from Mr Harris to the Letter I sent him to Uxbridge. He will be in Town on Saturday & wait on you to Thank you for your very friendly interference, as also in expectation of having the Tragedy to read - which he is the readier to hope from a conversation on the subject with Mr Albany Wallis from whom he heard it to be the intention of Mr Ireland & also from what has past between you &

Dear Sir Your very Obedient Servt

Wm Thos. Lewis

Note by Byng - This Letter Relates to the Play of Henry 2nd - If this Play had been Introduced to the Publick, instead of Vortigern, it would probably - have found a different Reception.

(11)

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and similar line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retraval

Byng to S. S. 16 May 1796

Upon a card with corner (upon which had been writing) turn away.

Play write underneath
a Book relative to the life of Queen Elizabeth ~~at~~ with his notes.

Here follows Shakespeare's prayer in W. H. S's hand 1616

Note by Byng. W. H. S shewed to me an Old Primer (supposed to be S's) with this curious impossible, Prayer, Written by Mr. S. in his last hours !!!
To this strange Prayer, We started so many Ifs and Ands., as almost to overset the Inventor! – So the Primer was Laid aside & never once Produced.

Note by Byng. June 12 1796 Mrs. B. Calling upon W. H. S. to Produce some Lines (The Theme, Solitude, and Reflection,) He Walking about the Room, instantly Wrote down the following Verses

Why thus: Solitude Brings on Reflection;
Which soon does Reper in the brain of Man. –

(12)

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retraval

I have been Tuto'd in the School of Pomp
Have seen the futile Pleasures of this World
That like a blooming, new crop't Rose seems fair,
Then Withers; - and Farewell all its Beauties. -
This known, I then did argue with myself,
The more I Thought upon my follies past,
More I did Blush that I did wear a mind,
And knowingly should make wanton with it.
Now Mark the Change: I Coerted Solitude,
And tho' I long had spurn'd her from my breast
Yet gently, she did Listen to my Pray'r,
And with the mind of sweetest Charity,
Kiss'd and Forgave me. I thank'd her kindness,
And since that time have known myself a Man,
Have Felt the Praises due unto my God,
Which may be learn'd e'n from his smallest work:
For not a Flow'r but speaks his mighty praise,
Stamping him at once - Lord Omnipotent.

Note by Byng - This Acrostick was Written (in S^r hand) in an old Edition of Spencers Fairy Queen: the margin of which was Fill'd by Notes - -, (in the same hand !!!)

See from yon hill a glitt'ring star appear,
Proclaim it with the clarion trumps of fame,

To be typed on same legal paper as the History and similar line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retraval

Each Poet, now, no more his head shall Rear,
Nor join the laurel to his little name:
Chaucer in humble notes, their praise could Tell
Constant how Prences Rose; how Prences Fell
Rich Spencers Muse can Paint or Heav'n, or Hell.

Note by Byng - The best Written, well imagined Margend Notes (by W. S) were Inserted in a book, Publerhed at the Time, "An Account of the Behaviour, last dyeing Speeches of the Conspirators of the Gunpowder Treason Plot — --

Mr W. S. therein states, "That he Become acquainted with my Masters Vaux, and Catesby, from their Frequenting the Globe Theatre; That they were civil, mannerly Gentlemen, whom he never could have Supposed would have Engaged in so facinorous an Undertaking! He particularly Remembers their extravagant praises of his Play of King Richard 2nd & of the actions therein Recorded - That Mr S. - not wishing to see the horrid sight of their Execution, Procured the inserted Account from Mr Hemings who had attended at the same. -

W. H. I. had Gotten from Mr Earles Shop in Greek St. Soho; or from Mr. Herberts valuable Collection; many old and rare Books; besides the curious Books

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retravel

and Prints, that he Obtained from his (Gull'd) Father, in exchange for such as had Belonged to W.S.-

By Wm. Hy. Ireland

Verses on our young, & bravest Hero, George Clifford, the valiant, and Renowned, Earl of Cumberland.

Gods, which of you Stood by at Clifford's birth?
S' ngs he from Venus? His shape doth Show it.
Let Mars be proud to say that face is mine:
For courage in his brow is firmly Fix'd.
Dear to his Queen, that blessed morning star,
Eve of sweet England, Maiden of this Isle;
Clifford by all Belved, by friends Adored.-
Untainted with the form of gilded pride;
Mercy thy steady; Charity thy guide;
By nature Fram'd for sweet Southampton's friend,
To Sufferance like his, thou'lt gently Bend.
From Shakspeare, Take these lines devoid of art,
Lo! silver-tipped, they Trickle from the heart:
Less louder for thy deeds themselves Proclaim,
Nor Needst aught of art to Praise his name,
Declare but Cumberland, Thou Speakest Fame (Sic)

To be typed on same legal paper as the History and similar line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retravel

Note by Byng

W. H. S. was often, before me, Comparing himself to the unfortunate Chatterton "who, like himself, had Discover'd antient song - hidden Treasure, Was not Believed; Found not a Patron; &c &c - So Finished, hastily, his Life!!

"On this account, he said, He Detested the character of Mr. H. W., and wished that he could Trick him into any belief of a found curiosity" - With this intention then, I think, He Fram'd an Old Interlude - saying "That one most curious, was Found amongst S's Books; That the Gentleman would not Part with it; but had Permitted him to Take a Copy."

He left this copy with me, for a short time, when I Transcribed two, or three pages; Going on far beyond Mr. Ws belief of the person of Richard. It was very long & tedious, and ended in a terrible fight betwixt Gabriel, and the Divill.

Note

Here follows near three pages of the Interlude - the original is in the B. M. complete, signed "J. H. H. S." 1795 26 pp. The Title & one verse is in W. H. Ireland's "Confession" 1805. I was written with the old spelling but not in Shakespeare's hand. J. Mean Libris

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and similar line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retravel

Byng to S. J. 12th June 1796
Mrs Byng to S. J. 15th June 1796
S. J. to Byng 9th July "

Mrs Wardle to Mrs. Byng.
Vaynor Park 18th July 1796

My dear Friend, Your young Man arrived here yesterday Morn^g: he sent me a Note from Wm Pool on Saturday Even^g – We are much surprised and our minds remain still in suspense & I have frankly told him so – time will alone discover the mistery – for it very astonishing – you do not say if Mr B & Mr F: are convinced – The reception he has met with from Mr W. I believe ought to be very pleasing to him – I saw him first, and he advised with me – to know which I thought best, to have one unravel the business – or speak himself – I immediately determined on the latter – To be ingenuous & candid placing a proper confidence was every way the best plan to pursue & tell the tale himself – I dare say you will be of my Opinion – I have not time to enter into particulars nor do I think it would be proper to commit another's secret to the risk of a letters miscarrying – He has told us all and that Mr F & Mr B. are convinced as far as he was able to prove everything – But he confesses that he is not

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retravel

surprised we should have doubts – he is now reading & seems bent on application – & giving further proofs of his very uncommon Genius – I have the pleasure to say Mr Winder is better – but still wrapt up in Flannels – I long for a change of weather – it would be of service to him – I will take care to Introduce the young Man, only to those he may safely associate with – & give him a caution not to contract any Acquaintance with some he may chance to meet with – It will not be difficult for Mr W. to know how he spends his time when he gets settled at the Farm – I wish often you was with me – Accept our united Regard the same to your Dear better half – The Traveller will write to Mr B. next Post and desires his best respects to you both. Adieu Ever most truly

Yr Affectionate Chart. Winder

Addressed to the Hon.ble Mrs Byng
Duke Street – London

Note by Byng This Effusion of W.H.'s – was written in Wales, in the Summer of 1796, and this Transcript was sent to me by Mrs W.2, in whose house he found an Asylum.

Avarice

Mens minds I liken to an Ague fit,

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THE HON.JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour,without taking short notes. So I must retraval

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THE HON.JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour,without taking short notes. So I must retraval

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must not novel

Wm. Hy. Ireland to Byng
July 23rd 1796

My dr Sir, On my arrival at Berkeiw(?) I deliver'd Mrs Byng's Letter & afterwards told Mrs Wender the fatal story - she as you may suppose was thunder struck however as soon as her surprise had for a little subsided she told me I had better confide in Mr Wender I did so accordingly they were hard of belief though I think more convinced at present of the whole Business - I have been to Montgomery & to a place called Lymore near it where there is an old House belonging to Lord Powis (mind I do not mean Powis Castle) it is quite in the right style & pleas'd me much I have been to several Villages & for the most part have either amus'd myself with reading or walking I must inform you that I purchas'd three curious little books at Shrewsbury & another I got at a farmers for nothing. Mr Wender is confin'd with the Gout he is not a Man in our way at all & I find him of a very odd Temper. The Country is Delightful but the weather (except at Intervals) very bad.

I left in Mr Walle's's Hands an order for either you or him to dispose of the Mare the sooner it is done the better as she is expensive and according to

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must ...

the old Proverb Eating her head off out of the money which she is sold for Mr. Wallis is to have 10 Guineas the amount of the 2 last Sums he lent me when he is paid I would thank you to see him Destroy or return to me the 2 notes which I gave him on borrowing the money - If you see him persuade him as much as possible to get Harris to accept the H.H. the 2nd for though I have given it to my Father I thinks that he would not be so unkind as not to give me part of the money Pray Remember me to Mrs Byng most kindly tell her that Mrs Winder is exceedingly kind & has made me as welcome as possible - do not forget Frederick & your son Henry with all gratitude for your past kindnesses & the sincere hope that I shall in future prove myself worthy give me leave Dr Sir to sign myself

Yours ever oblig'd

H. H. Ireland sits Mr Shakspeare.

Mr & Mrs. Winder present their best love & Compts to yourself & Mrs. Byng

Addressed For The Honble John Byng
Stamp Office
London

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes So I must

Byng to S. I. Aug 12 1796

S. I to Byng Dr Sir Your favour has not a little surprised me, I should have noticed ye receipt of it before, but have only this instt been able to see Walles, who I thought might have had some information on ye subject, but I learn that he has heard nothing

I ask'd him if he expected this Conduct, & he only reply'd, he had liv'd so long that he was surprised at nothing - nor could I get any further from him on ye Subject - This Conduct you must agree wth me - must go to ye Establish'd ye papers - Earle tells me this day that he will swear to hav'g seen ye old MSS. of Henry 2nd before Sheridan saw ye Vortigern and that [it] this moment he believes them all Genuine. I saw Mrs Byng yesterday - she is well & talk'd of being with you on Friday wth yr newly returned son, I shd be extremely happy to accompany them, but fear I shall not be able, more especially as your stay will be so short - If through any channel you shd hear further of this unfortunate youth pray let me know - I need not say I am extremely uneasy abt him & dread the Sequel.

I have heard from some people who saw Charlton

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To be typed on same lined paper as the History and double line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes So I must [illegible]

last night that report been a very extraordinary and that he distances Hemble - in Octavius that he will not dare to show his - arm - again -
With every wish for yr health &c believe me Dr Sir
Yrs very truly S. Ireland Aug 16th 1796 London
Addressed Hnble J. Byng Beer Inn, Biggleswade
Bedfordshire

Byng to S. I. 18th aug. 1796

Mr. Hy. Ireland to Byng
I know not how it [is] my Dr Sir but you still appear an Infidel as to what I have communicated to yourself Mr Wallis & Mr Franklyn can you suppose me such a Rascal as to pledge myself so solemnly as I have done & in a manner so strong as that which is written under my own hand in the possession of Mr Wallis can you suppose this & yet correspond with one who if your opinion were just would surely merit contempt & infamy I can only repeat that what I have communicated to yourself Mr W- & Mr F. is the Truth & full account of the Business in the Letter which Mrs. Kinder received at the time, I did mind you there seem to ask, why I was so anxious about my Book - I was no further Desirous of having it than being

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes So I must [illegible]

better than 3 weeks with only 2 shirts tho' pair of stockings I certainly must have found it very inconvenient. As to writing to my father or taking the Oath he requires I certainly will do neither as it would bring on fresh altercations as to the Oath. I cannot do it without being guilty of Perjury for at the time he alludes to I wishes me to make the Oath no person but Talbot & myself knew of the Business how can I then swear there was a third person I am convinc'd Talbot would not take such an Oath he says in his Letter if I will join in it that he will take it he must certainly know I should not do any such thing & thereby throws it off humsily upon my shoulders.

As to Mr Earle he is the most consummate Liar I ever heard what he saw at Chambers when he has called on me was the Green Lawyer I solemnly declare he never saw a Line of Mr's the 2nd in the old hand except the 3 leaves which I took my father. As to my having taken papers to Copy at his House it is the most arrant Lie that was ever uttered – I can only say Mr Earle has the Title of the greatest Liar in the Trade Mr Hardin of Pall Mall says of him that he never believes one

To be typed on same sized paper as the History and similar line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retrace

one word he says — at the time I wrote to you I also wrote to Mr. Wallis & Francklyn — I was much surprised in a Letter which I received from the Latter to hear him say nothing of it. I must beg of you to ask him whether I may draw on him or what I [am to do]

I am without a farthing & know not which way to turn myself. I have hit on a subject & am working on it & doubt not but I shall [be] able to make it succeed with Harris it is quite an old Story & I think must please — Pray speak also to my father about allowing me some small sum. I am now at Bristol but cannot tell you at present where to Direct as I am strolling to find some place where I can begin I have heard of one & have wrote about it, as to the Play of H.y 2nd. I shall not trouble myself about alterations I have given it away & so let my father do what he pleases with it I must now write & do something for myself with most sincere regards to Mrs Byng Fred & H.y. Believe Dr Sir Your ever obliged Servt W. H. Ireland Junr

Addressed to the Hon.ble John Byng, Stamp Office London

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retraval

W. H. I. to Byng 4th Sept 1796.

W. H. I. to Byng Sept 15th 1796

I am exceedingly surprised my Dr Sir at not having heard from you as I wrote you about 10 Days ago I also wrote to Mr Franklyn but he has taken no Notice of my Letter I am now living without Money & cannot go on here if I do not pay my way I live very retired & can safely say not extravagantly if Mr F— will give me leave to draw on him for a small sum or if my Father wud assist me I should be oblig'd he I conceive must have forgot the money I lent him but Memorys are too often treacherous I must intreat you my Dr Sir to mention all this to Mr F— and likewise speak to my Father for in you my Dr Sir I find the only Person inclined to serve or assist me. Pray Remember me to my Dr Miss Byng tell her I shall have Ghosts, Goblins & Spirits to haunt the Covent Garden Boards, The World love folly & the Language of a Fool will only gain attention from the Crowd therefore let dry insipid good Sense go to decay since it will not afford a man even a Dog enough to live. Do not forget me in kindest Remembrance to Dr Lord & Henry & to yourself I offer a sincere & thankful heart which shall for ever study to prove itself. Your most obliged W. H. Ireland address half dist gone

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes. So I must retravel

N.H. J. to Byng Sept 28 1796

My Dear Sir,

The astonishment with which I read your last Letter cannot be equall'd I mean that part wherein you speak of Mr Franklyn his behaviour I do not think alone ungentlemanlike but even dishonorable & oppressive through his assurances I quitted Town & now am left to little better than a state of Starvation I plainly see what the world is & little am I pleased at your chastening date. – However from a West Indian Planter the same liberality may be expected as from a Trading Bristowian. The first money I get by my Labours shall most certainly replace him his 3 or 4 guineas but think not I will rest there I have cast my Pen at future & come there are shall know what I can paint to the life or not – as to my Father's dissatisfaction at my Conduct I have carefully cons'd every Circumstance & the result is that I am less inclined to think my Conduct reprehensible than ever. I did not think you would from Sussex have my address but it signifies little – I am hard at work & hope the story I have hit upon will succeed – I shall write to Talbot as you hinted my Dr Sir & tell him my present situation – I shall not neglect Mr Wallis – I received the saddle safe but what was my surprise instead of receiving

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must retraval

me on which I had rode but about half a dozen times Pagler has sent one almost worn out - I shall trouble you to send what is written on the other side to him. I am almost ashamed to intrude so much on your kindness & mark'd Friendship towards me but that I have no friend who will take the trouble for me - the bridle is my own.

You need not mention my good fee in your Letter how much you have stretch'd for me I know it but too well I also know my own unthankfulness & yet I feel within a something which though I cannot place it on paper assures me with how much sincerity I am Your's Devotedly H. H. Ireland

Pray be kind enough to let me know how to direct to Mr Pagler -

My best Remembrances to Mrs Byng my Jr Fred & Henry.

Pray for the future direct my Letters to be left at the Post Office Westbury near Bristol

For Mr Pagler

I received the bridle safe whilst you sent the Hon.ble Mr Byng so being mine and instead of finding it almost a new one & not rode on more than 6 times which mine was - It is not worth 10 6

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To be typed on same legal paper as the History and similar line spacing

THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour, without taking short notes, So I must retraval

Besides that it is not my Saddle If you do not send me my own or purchase me a new one I shall apply to some Person who will force you to comply The Saddler will make Oath that the Saddle which you have sent me is not the one he made I must insist on having it immediately & shall return you your own again - The Bridle is my own you will pay the Carriage of the Saddle as I shall not be at Double expence

W. H. Ireland

Sept 28th 1796

Addressed to The Honble John Byng
Stamp Office, London

Gilbert Francklyn to Byng

My dear Sir, Your intercession in behalf of Ireland would not want weight with me, even was I less inclined to relieve distressed merit than I actually am but in this young man I really no longer find any or any hopes that I shall do so.
When he went into the Country he promised he would shew his abilities & convince me he was capable of being the Author of the papers in question - after having been 6 weeks in the Country I wrote him a letter to which I

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THE HON. JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

I never Tour without taking short notes, So I must retravel

received not an answer but a foolish Letter to inform me he had been walking in the Country, you sent him five Guineas, he borrowed five more of Mrs Minder, abused her recommendation, by borrowing more of her friend.

I send you his Letters, the last without Date but by the P. mark was written in Sep: but no place from whence dated, & then in answer to a letter written to him before he left Mrs. Minders

I cannot any longer think of [him] but as an idle dissolute young man who is totally undeserving my protection or further regard. I am Dr Sir

Your very faithful & obedt Servt Hilbert Farnsby

Hinpole Street 30 Sep. 1796

Note by Byng

~~At end of letter [illegible]~~ -

This poor Gentleman - could not withstand his Wife's tears, and the hoax; besides his Terror of Imposture: So in the most shabby way - he - after verbal Belief - encouragement to - and Promises to H. H. S. Deserted him basely in the hour of need.

It will appear - from these Letters - how long, & idly I listen'd to the Delusion of Hope, as this H. H. S. - to an Expectancy of pecuniary assistance from me - from

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Walking over the Bridge - and [illegible]

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In the typed on same legal paper as the History and Bernhardt Law Opening

THE HON.JOHN BYNG'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TOUR IN KENT.

1790.

As I never Tour,without taking short notes, So I must retravel the Ground of this,(therein having view'd many Places highly-worthy of Notice) in graphical description;making my Pen a short Introduction to the Prints,which may be,in no distant day, thought curious.-

On Friday Septr.17th. 1790 Having hurried over a very bad dinner in Duke Street, at two o'clock,I was accompanied by Mrs.B.- and my sons John and Fred'k,in a coach to Westr Bridge;there to meet my old Campagnon-de-Voyage Col. B.: - Poney led thither by T.B. my Sheets,and small Parcel proceed with Col.B's Servant in a one Horse Chaise.-

Not seeing Col.B: at W: Bridge,I rode forward;and at the second Turnpike learn'd that he was in advance;and overtook him in 3 more miles.

What Charming Weather ! and what An Harvest of Plenty !from Eltham a delicious Country to Foot's-Cray Village: From the hill above,there is a beautiful View of Foot's-Cray [illegible],in a lovely vale,Watered by a rapid Trout-Stream;- Herein might my foolish Uncle Admiral Byng have sat down at a cheap Rate;instead of being gull'd (blockhead as he was) by an architect,to build a Stare-about Pile near Barnet.- The moon now rose - and We had no other apprehension but what arose from the hop-pickers lounging about the Road;- When Strange to relate,- We heard the cry of hounds,and saw a Pack,in full cry,cross an adjoining field,follow'd by a galloping Sportsman ! - "Now Col!",said I,"Could Ghosts take various Shapes for amusement,There were an whole troop of them ! for who else could hunt at this hour ? - We walked on foot down Farningham Hill,- to the Black Lion Inn;-where the Col's Servant was arrived,- who now took care of his Master's Horses with a most ridiculous Parade:- Servants are either brutal to,or ignorantly fond of Horses Walking over the Bridge - and Stable attendance employ's us

till Supper Time; We were early to Bed.

Saturday,Septr. 18. In our Road of last night,all the way from London,a Man often galloped by us,often stop'd; and,at last,upon his very Jaded Horse,Reached this Inn. It then appeared to be an hired Horse from this Inn,which his drunken Rider had so abused in the course of this day ,that the animal soon after coming in,Expired of a broken Heart:- Surely such Barbarity should come under the Laws Notice, and the Perpetrator be amply punished ! Up Early,from a bad Bed; but any Bed serves in this Weather. This Place tho' by a a quick clear Stream,is Gloomy;and the surrounding Country steep,and stoney: In the Church there is a handsome Monument of the Ropers.

To the Left of our Inn, Have been Erected,long since 3 arches over The River;which are so ably delineated in the following Leaf:-

After Breakfast,and the Hot Rolls,We took the Road - hilly and stoney to Wrotham Hill; Whence is a grand View of the Vale beneath- and of the Country beyond;This Hill till lately - was dangerously steep - but now so cork-screwed that a Chaise may trot down it,with Safety.

Wrotham,-'The sacred Store House of my ancestors',lays in the Bottom; It has a large Church,and is a Living of the first amount:

In the Church Wall is a Stone of,very great,antiquity,on which our Family Arms are Carved;but no memorial of them Could I ever find in the Church ! !

Robert Bing (sic) of Wrotham Esq.served for the Borough of Abingdon in the first Parliament of Queen Elizabeth - anno 1559; and in the 34th.year of her Reign was Sheriff of the County of Kent.- He married to his first Wife Frances,Daughter,and Heir of Richard Hill Esq.;by whom he had three Sons,George,John and Francis, whereof the two last died without Issue;and by his second Wife,Mary, Daughter of Wm.Maynard Esqr.,He had issue three Sons,of which William was Governor of Deal Castle,and a Daughter Anne,married to David Polhill of Otford in Kent,Esqr.-

The said Robert Bing Esqr.died on the 2nd.of Septr.1595,in the

37th.of Elizabeth,Seized of The Manors of Wrotham,Charlton,Rusthall in Spelhurst by Tunbridge,Stodmer Hill,and Stock Hill Manors in Yalding,and Stanstead Manor with Leybourne Wood in Leyborne - etc.

How different are these Roads,and the mode of Travelling to what I remember,when my happy annual time of visiting in this Country came on about 40 years ago.- My Brother,and I,upon our two Horses, (Mine Little driver) attended by the Old Groom Joseph Man,and the Pointer Sancho,Left London early;following the Coach which carried my Mother,her Maid Servant,and a female Relation.- Now this Coach,was drawn by 4 large black dock-tailed Horses,and driven by an old,Stiff,crook-fingered Coachman,who Johu'd,yaw'd,and double thong'd,till we reach'd Greenwich Hospital at 9 o'clock;where we were expected,and kindly Received at Breakfast by Dr.,and Mrs.C: There Stay'd two Hours;- Commonly my Uncle also,attended us on Horseback with his Groom.- Remounting with Pleasure, (for I got tired of the Confinement of Greenwich)We crossed Blackheath to Eltham;and here The Road became so narrow,that a Servant was always sent ½ a mile in advance,to Remove Obstructions.

(Instead of these cool,overshaded Lanes,there now runs a wide exposed Road over Hill,and dale,which,no doubt,meets universal approbation;but I look back with Pleasure to the Shaded Lanes,twining around the Cherry Gardens.) After a long,the pleasant crawl,We arrived at the Top of Farninghan Hill;where the Roadwas then so narrow,and steep,that the Drag Chain was fastened.Crossing the River at Farninghan,We arrived at two o'clock at the Red Bull, kept by the Widow Prat; who was right glad to see her old acquaintance,and The young Masters looking so well. My Uncle James Master h his Brother here awaited us ;- Coach was lined with Red Cloth,with its first painting,heavy Top,and low fore wheels; The Seats,and Bottom Narrow to an Extreme,and the whole unassisted by Springs.-

A joyful Regale here of Beans and Bacon,and Fowls.
A History of the Country was Related by the Widow Prat;and of what Gentlefolks had lately pass'd that way.

We proceeded in State,along the baddish Quarters to Wrotham;down

whose Hill We all Walked, from the ~~exces~~ excessive steepness.

Now my Uncle D. would often lead us Boys (The Coach taking a wider cast) a bye Road from Wrotham (mark'd Red) thro' the Hurst Woods of vast Extent, till we enter'd my Uncle M's Grounds on the Stand-Fields (perhaps so called from some stand erected upon this Hill to View the flight of Falcons.)-

At Yokes Court, We com only arrived in time, to receive the Embraces, Enquiries, etc. of our old Uncle, and our Cousins Columbines, before the Supper was served up:- Which, on that first night, was superabundant.

To Bed at ten o'clock, their usual hour, after our fatigues. In two miles The Vale becomes very beautiful; passed near Birlings Church, and Place; and now beginning to tire of Heat and Dust we sought an Halt. Seeing Aylesford to our Left - We descended to it - passing by this old Seat: which is a pleasant - green Place, in a delicious Country; our Forefathers - you may perceive, if ignorant of Taste and grand Improvements, knew full well how to collect their comforts around them.

We entered Aylesford by a steep, old, Stone Bridge; and so To The Anchor Ale-House, as bad a stop as could be, with most miserable stabling; The Day was so gay, that any misery was to be Endured - So we attempted to be Happy over our bad mutton chops, and a Pudding, with Brandy and Water - We saw whilst at Dinner, a gang of well-mounted Smugglers pass by: How often have I wished to be able to purchase a Horse from their excellent Stables. - No Dinner could be worse than ours; Nor could a stupider Innkeeper be found - But we were highly gratified by our Walk after Dinner; first to the Churchyard. Then to the beautiful Walk towards the Friars where the Dowager Lady Aylesford Resides.-

Aylesford a 4 miles be Lande from Rochester, and there is a faire Bridg of Ston over the Strene. LEYLAND.

The View from below the Elms of the River, the Town, Preston Hills of a well-wooded rich Country, screened from the North by the Hollingburn Hills, is composed of the loveliest scenery.

This must be one of the oldest Bridges extant - our Landlord was a surly ignorant Brute;nor would answer to any of our Questions about Harvest,Hop Picking,etc.etc.

After this hot Walk;tho'so much to our satisfaction;We hastened to go: Recrossing the Bridge,We turned to the Left over Fields, (the Gates of which were luckily unlocked) near the River,To ~~Alli~~ Allington Castle: near to which is much made Ground,and highly raised mounds.

Allington Castle is as concealed a Spot,and od as much C Curiosity - as can be found; In it resides A Farmer's Family, and Cottagers.- It should be a survey of 3 Hours -:but all Tourists hurry.

Thence to Langher;- and so to Barsted;where we came,at the Col.'s desire,to hunt Family Antiquities.-At a small Inn having taken Tea,We Walk'd to The Church;but our Search was in vain as to Bertie Monuments: Herein are some of the Fludds,and of The Cages, whose Family Seat is in view,and looks well.- The Twilight now came on;and our ~~over ran the their~~ Road lay thro' Hop Grounds,where every Creature (even at that Hour) was employ'd in Picking Hops,with their whole Families; For the little Children in their Cradles,(a pleasant and novel Sight) were strew'd,dis persedly,amidst The Hop Gardens:- The twinkling Lights aided the Imagination,-and made me fancy it like a scene in a Pantomine Dance.- L'd Romney's Seat, The Mote, which we pass'd by,appear'd to advantage by moon light.

Enter Maidstone a large,ill built Old Town,where we Housed at the best,tho' a miserable,Galleryd,shatter-paned Inn, The Star: Then till supper time,stroll'd about the streets,which are gay on a Saturday Night.- Our Waiter was an intelligent Fellow;and our Inn only endurable from the Warmth of the Weather.

No Actors,or Show in the Town !- We kept late Hours;even till half past ten o'clock -

---

Sunday,Septr.19th. I awoke early,and was abroad at 7 o'clock; and,first,to The Bridge over The Medway;thence The College,The ~~Old Palace,and~~

Old Palace,and The Public Walks are Viewed to Advantage. All The Surrounding Country is rich,andbeautiful. The Church is low,and Roomy;but surely not half capacious enough for The Place:So that let the Living,be ever so Valuable,Still there is no Receptacle for Churchmen. So The Religious must fly into other

/Picture occurs here/

John Duff,Alias Leys,was last Master,and had a pension of £ s d 46-16-6 allowed him,which He Enjoyed ann: 1553:- when there remained in Charge many pensions to the surviving Incumbents of This College.

WILLIS.

Willm Courtney,Archbishop of Canterbury,19th.Rich'd 2d.founded a College here to the honour of All Saints.- It was endowed with £ s d 159-7-10 pr.an.- TANNER.

Persuasions.- The Old Gateway of The College, (of which a distant side Glympse is seen in this Print) is a fine Relict:and on the other side of The Churchyard are some curios Old Barns. Indeed, there is much to observe about this spot.

This was my first Round. My second was The Public Walk upon The Medway Brink; Where the Elms are growing well,but in The River at low Water a Duck cannot Swim.- Here Col.B.join'd me in my Walk; Thence we Returned to pay our Bill,which could not be, from our Orders,Exorbitant,tho' screw'd up by Bread,and Parsley and Butter.- Glad we were to be restored from this black Inn, to the Country; where we soon pass'd The Mote - The Seat of L'd Romney,an House,and Place of very habitable Description.
Some few miles of good Road,in a charming Country,brought us to Leeds Park, L'd Fairfax's,of pleasant unequal Ground - thro' which a Stream flows,capable of the greatest Improvements: The Park likewise wants much planting. The Pleasure Grounds, thro' which the Stream passes,forming several cascades,is at a distance from the Castle;which stands safely,and awfully in a large Pool of Water.- Having had for its Owners,during a course of years,a continuation of aged men, it has neither been Improved,nor demolished;but were a man of Taste and Fortune,Master,Who would,

(keeping up the Antique) Repair,and refurnish The Old Castle; Deepen,and Clean out the Pool, (now sadly choked by Weeds) Plant The Hills;and Enlarge the Water in the Valley;It would be one of the first and most curious Places in the Kingdom.

The Col. was charmed with the Scenery;as every one must be; For some time We sat us beneath a Grove at an hill top,contemplating all these Beauties; the bemoaning over ill choice of Bat (Sunday), or the Rudeness of L'd F. in refusing us admission into his Castle.-

Leaving the Park - We soon Left Lenham on our Right, (riding in Heat th thro' heavy Sands) - and went to see - where is nothing to be seen, the Remains of Boxton Chapel - This is one often Humbug'd by printed accounts of Visionary Vizards.-

We now Hastened to a Dinner Stop;and after a long,and hot Ride, arrived at a mean public House in the Village of Charing; Where the Stabling was wretched; but The Hostess very civil.-

(The Colonel's Servant in the One Horse Chaise,with the Baggage, does not go with us;but makes his own way to our Night Halt).

We Devoured half a Roasted Pig,with part of a Pudding,prepared for the Family Dinner; Then looked into,and about The Church,to which the P People were then coming for Evening Prayers.

Near to The Church,in front of a Farm House,to which they form a Screen are many Remains of Walls,and Arches - like those that did belong to som some Old Castle or House of Defence.

(This was the best I could do with my Pencil)

Our Charge was
For Eating 1 - 4
Liquors etc.1 - 2

4 - 6

Our Road from Charing,led at the foot of Hollingbourn Hills,with a bold a and noble View to the Right,to Eastwell Park -; To Enter which We paid a Penny Toll at The Gate.- This is a noble Park,with lofty Hills in the Centre,commanding fine Views - both Inland and of The

Sea;but the Timber has been cruelly fell'd - and every part
Waste,and Disorder.

Into The Magnificent Old Mansion I was forbidden Entrance;as Mr. F.H.with "much Company were at home,and Dinner would soon be Ready": (half past 5 o'clock ! an Elegant Transfer of London Hours ! !) Every part about this Place,lays in Neglect,and Disorder;with neither a wish to preserve,Repair,or Keep Clean !

Another Toll,Park Gate,brought us upon the high Road From Sittingborn How most Extraordinarily are these petty Tolls exacted at Park Gates, for the avoidance of a bad roundabout Lane ! ? !

The Weather now became Low'ring.- Four miles,and to Ashford,A Town of good Appearance,and well Situated: There we put up at The Saracens (vulgo Serjeants) Head. After Tea,We walked about the Street,and C Church -yard,till the Rain drove us in.

A Stable Tiee;a Short Supper,a Wish for Bed.-

Assheforde Church was in a meane to be Collegiatyd by the Request of one Fogge a Gentleman dwellynge there about that was Countrowler to Edwarde the Fourthe.- But Edward dyed or Fog had finished this Enterprise.- So that nowe remayne the to Asheforde the only Name of a Prebend.- and this Place hathe Lands,Priestes and Chorsts but remarable.For they have no Comon Seale.- (Lelands Itin)

Monday Septr.20th. Bad Beds,Bad Stabling,bad Wines;but fine Weather, fine Roads,fine Country.

This is a Clean well paven Town,with some Inland Trade.

We went to the Church
but Could not get the Key
I took down this Inscription
in the Church-yard.

JOHN IVY
Here lies whom God by sudden call
Has forced to leave a World and all
His Wife and eke his Children small
Lament his most untimely fall.

There was much Rain in the Night;with too much wind for our Fleet in the Downs.

We left Ashford at 9 o'clock;and upon a pleasant gravelly Road, passed in the Front of Marshan-Hatch,an unseemly Mansion of Sr.W. Knatchbull's with Fir Trees and such like minutiae around it;- A

Common in front;and back'd by a Staring Park.

All Nature seem refreshed by the Rain;hailing the Return of Vegetatation. Crossing the pleasant Common of Braboum,toSSkelling,We soon turned off to the Left,To View The Ruins of Ostenhangar House.

/Picture/

Costinghaungre was ereals Lordeship; of sum noweorruptely caulled Westenanger, Poynings a late held it.The King hath it now.

(Lelands Itin)

Strype in his annals Vol.2.page 314.mentions"Queen Elizabeth at her own House at Westenhanger."-

After the Defeat of the Royalists at Maidstone,1646.Many Prisoners of them were Confined in this Castle. It was formerly surrounded by a large Park;long since disparkled.-

There is a new Building,and a good Farm House,within the Enclosure of The Old Walls and Turrets;The Entrance into which is mark'd in the foregoing Print; One Tower is call'd Rosamonds Tower;The present Stable was a Chapel.-

The Farmers,with Mr.Champneys his Landlord (now here on a Shooting Intention) behaved to us with much civility,and accompanied us around The Place.- After a gratifying Survey,we join'd the Road; and in 3 more miles,after smelling the Salubrious Sea-Breeze,Descended by a fine dip,into The Town of Hithe.- Dinner being ordered at the Swan Inn,I having with some difficulty found The Sexton, walk'd up the Hill To The Church;whence is a fine Sea-View.- It is a good Edifice,with an attach'd dry above Ground Building, in which are pilled up an Immense Quantity of human Soulls;formerly belonging (according to the Sexton) to Danish Invaders,who were slain upon the Beach.

Some of these the Sexton Produced, (were) remarkably thick;Which I should suppose in many cases,was of an advantage to the Wearer. (But why so preserv'd? or Why This Building of an Younger Date ?) This is a good Station for Sea Bathing,and Retirement,for The Rides up the Country are shaded and pleasant.

Hithe hath bene a very great Towne yn length and contayned 1111 Parochies that now be clene destroied,that is to say S.Nicolas Parochie,

Our Lady Parochs, S.Michaels Parochs,and Our Lady of Westhithe,the which is with you lesse than half a mile of Lymme Hills.- An yt may be well supposed that after the Haven of Lymme,and the great Old Town ther Fayled,that Hithe strayte therby encreased and was in Price etc etc.

We now walk'd together to the Battery upon the Beach;which might prevent the approach of a Privateer. Our Dinner consisted of Herrings split;- and the Roes lost: odd cooking this; With Beef Steaks,which is allways a tough Business.- Port Wine not drinkable. One starves in a town:but in this,with the air,and exercise consists the Salubriety.

After Dinner,quitting Hithe,we rode up a Lane of one mile to Saltwood Castle; a noble Ruin indeed ! of great amount and of much Remain;for the Walls around are in tolerable State: The Ditch deep and well wooded; The Chapel is disordered Perfection; and the Gateway of Approach in Preservation,- with good apartments above it,wherein an old Lady resides (The Lady of the Castle) Who, she observing us from the window dared not Hazard any civility to two such tremendous Knights.

The Prospect from it is very beautiful,with a Sea View to the Coast of France.- This noble Ruin, (one of the best I ever saw) is but little noticed or visited; Whilst Tourists idly,and pompously love to brag of Curiosities and Views in foreign Countries,without ever enquiring for any thing at home;or having ever stood upon Leith Hill in Surrey !

Know'st thou the Way to Dover ?
Both Stile and gate,horse-way and footpath.
(K.Lear)

Much blustered and buffeted by wind,over the exposed Hills,We came, (leaving Shakspeare's Cliff at a small distance to our Right) within Sight of Dover Castle,and soon into the Town of Dover. To The York Hotel;where,amidst noise,and Racket,we procured a mean,dirty Parlour for ourselves,and a kind of Ship-hold for our Horses.

Bad specimen this,To the French,of English Comforts !- Bread, and Wine,not to be Endured;with a nasty brown frieasee,and old tough Partridges ! - a Room fill'd with wind;and Ship Stinks ! !

Up till Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday,Septr.21st. An early Strole upon The Piers,where I saw two Packet Boats (with Exiles voluntary,and involuntary) Sail for Calais; also a King's Tender:and there was an Ostend East India Man laying off the Harbour.- Many sailors employed in Whiting Fishing,- To Breakfast.- Then We Walk'd upon The Beach,viewing the new Hot and Cold Salt Water Baths and to where Mr.S-- with idle,extravagant oddity,has built himself a House. A House;and has,also,scoop'd many strange recesses out of the chalky Rock; which are now abandon'd to the Violation of the Town.-

We,next,climb'd The Castle Hill;and,upon A Bench at the foot of the Steps here described) sat for some time,in Admiration of The Prospect. It seemed necessary to have a cicerone about The Castle,to talk about Julius Caesar and Queen Elizabeth;to make us Examine that Queens Pocket Pistol,To fling stones into the Well;to see the Old Sword,and Keys;and to peep into the Old Church, now a Fives Court.

Descending The Hill,We Walk'd to the North End of the Town to View The Old Ruined Church,call'd Grace-Dieu;now converted into a Kings Storehouse.

John Clarke occurs Master an:1534;at which time He,with ten others,Subscribed to the Kings Supremacy in Dec. an 26 Henry 8th. An 1553. There remained in Charge these Pensions,viz:-To John

	£ s d		£ s d
Thompson	53-6-8.	Henry Wood	6-13-4.

Across the Road in the opposite field are the remaining Ruins of St.Martins Priory.

A.D.696. Wictred,King of Kent founded a College of Secular Priests here, who were turned into Benedictine Monks by Archbishop Theobald. A.D.1139 - St.Martin was the tutelar Saint of this Monastery, whose yearly revenues at the Dissolution were worth £ s d 170-14-11.

£ s d
Dugdale. 232-1-5.Speed.. Tanner.

Here are grand Barns;with a Gateway of great antiquity,and around are those traces,walls and mounds,that employ the mind and observation of an antiquary.

Having made this quiet observation - alone,- and at mine ease,I Stroll'd back thro' the Town (observing a newly erected mischevious Play-house) and Visited Mrs. P— who formerly kept the Inn - called The City of London. Our Dinner was ill served,and nasty as possible with not drinkable Wine.- Our Evening Ramblewas to a Survey of the Mote Bulwark,and seemingly unnecessary Charge;but not a tenth Part so rediculous as the Battery upon the Hill,built by an Engineer, (a quondam acquaintance of mine) for the pirpose only,of pillaging the State.

After a long,cold and tedious walk,we had to endure a tedious Evening,from the want of good apartments and good Cheer.-

Wednesday Septr.22nd. Wind sunk,Sea quite smooth.Tho' up at seven o'clock,I was too late to have a good view of Seven Ships of the Line,tiding down the Channel from the Fleet in the Downs; But hurrying down to the Pier,I could survey them tolerably well, with my pocket Glass;especially the two hindermost,The Victory and Robust.- No knowledge of this at our Inn;Nor of the general Salute of the Fleet in the Downs;Nor of any Thing else ! Never did I Enter a more dirty,noisy,or more imposing Inn, than this York House;for We were charged most exhorbitantly,for wine not drinkable,for musty Fowls,and Stinking Partridges. Never did I leave an Inn with greater Pleasure.-

I had bought 4 Mackerel,just caught,for 6 pence;and lodged them in the One Horse Chaise.

Keeping the high Road for two miles,we came to the Village of Buckland;a pretty village in the Vale with Paper Mills. (This was the best my Pencil could effect,as to Church View).

Here Quitting the high Road,and turning to the Right,over a nice Hare Hunting Country,where I recollected the joys of my youth,came (at my desire,for the Colonel's indulgence) to Waldershare

Church; in a most happy,sequester'd Situation,well begirt by Old Yew Trees.- The Key of the Church being a distant search,We had a long sitting in the Church Yard; (where my poor Pencil went to work).- Entering the Church,I Scho'd to my Honor,and the Colonel's Pleasure, a noble Monument of The Honble Mr.C.Bertie, (2nd.son of Montagu Earl of Lindsay)and of his Lady,in white Marble,well wigg'd ruff'd and cuff'd.

dere The Colonel rewall'd for some time,in family Pomp,and desired at parting,that the Inscription might be copied,and sent to him.

Waldershare Park,and House,are close adjoining; A Good Demesn, and a Good House,- with a pleasant Country around them.

Above the Village of Hilham,we could descry The Fleet in The Downs;and perceive the Smoke of their Far-as Joys,fired in honor of The ——.

Throughout our Ride,I was Relating,to the Colonel,The Meandres of my Youthful Huntings over this Country; To all which, "Bid Desdemona seriously incline." -

We now came to Barfreston Church. The Antiquity of this Building is most Curious;and of its kind,nothing more worthy of observation: The extraordinary Sculpture over the Door,is now most barbarously, (and foolishly for the Parish Profit) shut up; and blinded by a modern Porch.- The Eastern Front is worthy of much Observation; for where is more Saxon Antiquity,or an upper Window of more Beauty to be seen ?- The Inside has by modern and frequent Alterations lost all Semblance of Antiquity.- From Barfreston We soon came upon Barham Downs,a dry,and Pleasant Spot. Little information of our Road could be procured here;and at the Cottages none,as all the People were at Hopping.-

A narrow stoney Lane led to a Wood;wherein we plunged for half an hour (being allways forward in time I can afford the uncertainty;) at last,clearing the Wood,We came to a Place call'd Palmerstead; and so,by much round about,to Burstead another fruitless Research of Colonel Bertie's;- Whence spring his hopes,or false intelligence

I know not,but I know that the only discovery of Family Magnificence was made by me.- Burstead is only a mean Farm-House.

We now came into better Roads,and an inhabited Country (for an hour We wandered in a wild country);- To Hardres,and so into Maidstone Road,which,by a long descent,brought us,at six o'clock into Canterbury.-

Here lodg'd at the Kings Head Inn,in a great Parlour,The Colonel would order so large a fire,as to exhaust me.- Canterbury is much improved by the new paving,but the Inns are wretched.

Whitings and our Mackerel served for the chief of my Supper;whilst the Colonel eat away of Whitstable Oysters: Nor did we retire till (very) late hour of eleven.

Thursday Septr.23rd. A dark rainy November morning. After Breakfast, The Colonel,and I walk'd to Mr.S's (our Distributor of Stamps) a stationer,and Mr.Soucbody here;from whom I borrowed Money and Books.-Then to the Cathedral Service;which we thought well performed, and that a well chosen Anthem was well sung by two good singing Boys.-

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The Colonel (to my Surprise)! ! - must now set forward to Rochester.

The Colonel being now Ordered to Rochester,and I left alone,I had to walk about the City of Canterbury - so rich of antiquities: (which being often,and accurately described I shall only mention as the occurrences of my Lounge).

The above old Gateway of the Blackfriars,mouldering with age,has been but lately taken down;Nor are there any Remains of the religious foundation.-

Not so of St.Augustines,where many,and curious monuments of antiquity Exist;as The two Gates 1 and 8 Ethelberts Tower 6,No.4 and 7.-

The Church of St.Martin is in use.

Having gratify'd my curiosity here,I walk'd by the Wall to Dungeons Hill,now improving for the Town Parade; and by an old Gate - upon which on the different Fronts are written Welcome,Farewell,To The Castle;a curious old magnificent Building of such strength as to

be unworthy of Demolition.

From the Castle I took my Walker by the old Walls, and Sides of this Old and much worthy of Observation, Town, till I Reach'd my Inn; where I ate of a tolerable Dinner, and sat (during the Rain) till the hour of the Cathedral Service; which was as duly observ'd over as any Dissenter could wish. I then chose to be Shown (the Old Way) the curiosities of the Cathedral; and by a Boy, in full Ignorant Brute, I was made to Observe The Monument of The Black Prince and to Recall the Memory of the daring Rebel.

The Screen and painted Windows - would not do Honor to the Popish Faith; and might raise a sigh over the Ruins of Religion !- after this - I passed a long, tedious, Wearing (for the days are too short to be alone, from home, and in an Inn where you are unknown, and disregarded,) and had only to lounge to a Coffee House, and to prose over the News-Paper.-

At Supper time, I had more of a melancholly, than pleasant Reflection, of the night I passed here in my Flight into France, Nov. 1777.

Friday Sept. 5th. Up at 7 o'clock; crossed the Street to a Barber's Shop, and there shaved, and dressed myself,- After waiting some time, for Breakfast and a Hot Roll, I was glad to get away, tho' in a lowering dripping morning, and upon poor Po who will not eat, and appears to be in pain.- At Harbledon, there are two Churches, Thence the Woods and rising Grounds of Boughton surrounding, afford grand, and luxuriant Scenery: The Day clearing up, gave an additional lustre.-For Variety, I quitted the high Road, and keeping the Lanes, to the Left, thro' Staple Street, soon entered at the Town of Faversham.- F. is now new paving;- and perhaps with some Abby Stones, as the Gateways have been lately pull'd down. Over this old Ground I rolled; and peeped into The Church, where divine Service was performing.- Crossing the River below Faversham - I came upon the opposite high Ground to Davington, where was formerly a Nunnery; I rode round the Church, and the Old House adjoinal to it; but as Nobody attended to my call, (from being, probably in the Hay Field) I continued my Ride.

An half mile, and to the high Road, which I crossed to view the Church of Ospringe; and, after some time spent in finding the foolish, old Clerk, my Research was amply Gratified in the Observation of a fine Monument of Sir Edward Hastar, a Recumbent Figure with a grand Beard, and a noble Countenance. A Monument that I could wish (from Relationship) to Re-adorn - as well as one opposite of The Stregnshams from whom my Son Edmund derives one of his Xtian Names.-

Here occurs a Picture.

A.D. 1146. King Stephen built a Cluniack Abbey to the Honor of St. Saviour. It was valued at the Suppression with £ 286-12-6 per an. Speed. (Tanner)

Faversham is a Market Town franchised with a Sanctuary, and hath a great Abbey of Black Monks of the Fundation of King Stephens.- The Towne is excluded in one Parish, but that is very large. Ther ariseth a breke to the Towne that beareth Vessels of XX Tunnes, and a sigle fro whens Hoth Est is a great Key cauled Tham to Disbarge bygge vessels.- The breke is Fulle with a bridge Water that ariseth fro springs a thorowgh Fare sigle and more of, ther was sunty a person do dien, that was longeth to E. Lenis yr Orderlige.- Lanland.

John Shepey who had the Temporalities restor'd him the 17th. Feb. 1499 15 Henr VII th and with ten others subscribed to the Kings Supremacy 10 Dec. 1534. 26 H. VIII th - and at length with 8 Monks on the 8th. of July 1539 Surrendered his Convent into the Kings Hands, and has a Pension of £ 66-13-4. allotted him. (Willis)

I Remain'd for to minutes in the Church-Yard to make this drawing and to copy This Inscription.-

HERE PIMBLE
WHO BY HIS INDUSTRY AND GREAT CARE,
HATH LEFT HIS WIFE WITH REASONABLE SHARE.

Returning into the high Road, I jogg'd on my slow pace to Sittingborn; where I dined very comfortably at The Rose Inn, the apartments are

good - but the stabling very bad;- after Dinner, I strolled to the Church-Yard; wherein:-

MANY FLEET 1759.
THOUGH WE IN DEATHS COLD ARMS
IN TOMBED WE LYE
WE ONLY SLEEP
UNTILL YE GREAT ASSISE
WHEN YE LAST TRUMPHET
SHALL AWAKE YE DEAD
THEN WE WITH THEM
THAT SLEEP IN CHRIST SHALL RISE.

was Interr'd and thus Epitath'd !

A Dull solitary Ride brought me to Rochester; upon Entering which Town I was Reset by the Colonel - and Lois Strange and and disagreable this ! But Remarks are unnecessary.

Sittingborn, alias Siddingburne is a proty Thorough Fare of one Parsone, and by the Church reareth a little Dome, or Hille, whereof perrentaire the Towne takes name. Sellers.

Poor Poney being now taken very ill, gave me an happy Excuse of absence, and of passing most of my Evening in the Stable.

For his sake I was obliged to send for what is call'd a Farrier - who dozed him most accordingly;- bragging wonderfully of his Skill ! - The arch'd ceilings of this Inn probably were the Vault of a Religious House which stood upon the Spot.-

Our Supper was bad;- our conversation was intolerable; and my Night was passed unpleasantly.

Saturday Septr. 26th. Tho' unwell I could not refrain from taking a walk around the Castle Ruins, and The Cathedral, before Breakfast; and also into the Fine Shop of Mr. G. our Distributor of Stamps for the W. Division of Kent.

He is a talking, bustling Fellow - and dashes away at all Points. The Inside of R. Castle - is a most Gloomy-deserted Pile of Ruins. After Breakfast - The Colonel took himself away. How much more does Habit, or Submission, sway men than their own Inclinations ? - Not choosing to go - and Poney being only convalescent I walk'd away thro' Chatham, and to the Barracks;- where - in Chief, I peep'd at the East Indian Recruits - poor Fellows - torn away from their native Climate,- (and what to

me appears all Happiness) never,never to return. The Marines,and their Barracks,appear'd to be in excellent order.- At the Dock-Yard Gate - my name being ask'd,and Permission Granted, I made the full survey of all the Cable Houses,Anchorages,Timber Yards etc.: Nor should have I return'd so soon had not Languor and ill Feels sent me back.-

I dined upon Roasted Veal,and having drank some Glasses of bad Port,considered whether it were better to go to Bed,or take an Evening walk;The latter,and more sensible plan prevailed;When crossing the Bridge,and taking over the Fields to the Left,I came to the Temple Farm -

About this place I Loitered for some time;Whence is a fine View of the Bridge,The Cathedral, and The Castle.-

At my return home,I had only to go to Gillmans Library to read the Newspapers;When tired of myself;and of my Inn; and of Touring in this late Season;I hurried over my Supper,and was quickly in Bed.-

Sunday Septr.28th. What horrid Inns upon this Road;and what horrid Stabling for Horses.- This as a (false) Specimen to Foreigners - Birmingham Knives and Forks; Dirty Glasses; Sanded Floors; with neither Beer or Wine that can be Swallow'd ! ! Stables dark as Dungeons,and littered with Ding.-

At ½ past seven o'clock,I had to settle with the ignorant, exhorbitant Farrier;and none else,scarcely,could I find awake in these genteel times !- Poney appear'd to be in better Health, and Spirits;and we took our way to Cais Hill - To the Public House- Sir J.Falstaff - Where Entering a good Parlour - I made my Breakfast with two Travellers,- enjoying the View,and the early Morning.- After my stay,and Refreshment,I det mith'd upon a Zig-zag Procedure; and so Proceeded to the Left,to Shorn Church.

Antiently Sir Roger Northwood held the Manor of Shorn,in Kent, by Service to Carry,with other the Kings Tenants,a White Ensign, forty days,at his own Charges,when The King should make War in Scotland.- ~~But the~~

But the Clerk living at a distance, I could not Enter, so Return'd into the high Road; and there, by a short Lane to Chalk Church, with not a single House near it, and soon came to The Ruins of Denton Chapel, Standing by The Road Side; where I stop'd for 5 minutes. Passing near Gravesend - I soon came back into the high Road; and was quickly at Dartford. - Here, at one of the miserable Inns - The Bull - did I put up; and with difficulty did make Retire two men who were introduced into my Room; nor was Po much happier in his miserable Stable. Here, every minute seemed an Hour.-

I had a long and quiet Ride in the Evening; Surprised and delighted at the various Attempts for a general Mourning for that good and gracious Prince Henry D. of Cumberland; Baronet, and Butcher, Peer, and Pedlar - all must go into The Court Mourning.!

The long round about over Westminster Stones is a sad Nervous Business.

DAY		WEATHER	TO WHAT PLACES IN KENT	INNS	MILES
Friday Septr	17th.	A fine hot Evening	To Farningham	Black Lion T	18
	18th.	Hot Day	To Aylesford etc. To Maidstone	Anchor ale House Star B.	23
Sunday	19th.	A fine Day	To Charing etc. To Ashford	Swan B. Swans Nest T	26
	20th.	do.	To Hythe etc. To Dover	Swan B. York Hotel B.	28
	21st.	do.	Around Dover	X	X
	22nd.	Charming Day	To Deal To Canterbury	Duke of Cumberland Ale House Kings Head B.	26
	23rd.	Rainy Morn Stormy Eve	Remain	X	X
	24th.	A Pleasant Day	By Teversham, To Sittingborn To Rochester	Rose G. Crown B.	
	25th.	A fine Day	About the Lock-Yard Barracks etc.	X	X
Sunday		A Pleasant Day	To Hartford etc. To London	Bull B.	35
	10			12	191

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